Daily Report

Latin America

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FBIS-LAT-90-048 *12 March 1990*

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Cuba

Reaction to Quayle Remarks on Intervention

FL0903184690 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle is dreaming. He talked his head off in Washington yesterday with a group of South American journalists and uttered a lot of nonesense. Among other things, Quayle cried that the United States will consider establishing a different relationship than the one it has now with our country when Cuba changes its behavior. We do not know on what Quayle is basing such assertions. It appears as though Cuba is begging the United States for some type of relations.

We want to remind to Mr. Vice President that this country has lived three decades without having relations with the United States, that it has faced victoriously its multilateral blockade and other attacks. At the same time, it has achieved incomparable socioeconomic advances. Quayle can keep its lofty offer. Cuba does not negotiate its revolution or its principles, the decorum and dignity which it holds up for a miserable bowl of lentils. The United States knows this because such offers have always come from practically every administration which has passed through the White House from 1959 to date.

Not so long ago, a relation with the empire was proposed in exchange for our distancing ourselves from the Soviet Union. We have always said: No, Cuba does not bite the hand of a friend. We were told that the Soviet Union was the obstacle to relations with the United States. This is exactly the same thing that is said of us to the USSR now.

It is suggested to us now that we change our behavior, that we hold elections, plebiscites, and a string of other similarly foolish things. We say again: No. Cuba's socialist revolution is not surrendering. He who wants to take it back to the dirty capitalist past, as we said yesterday, must come ready for combat action.

Havana Radio on Quayle Tour, Comments on Cuba

PA1003023090 Havana International Service in Spanish 0047 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Commentary by Chief Editor Alberto Martinez: "Our America"]

[Text] As our listeners know from our newscasts, U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle has begun a tour of Latin America and the Caribbean. His first destination is Venezuela. A dispatch from a Western press agency datelined in Caracas has just arrived in our editorial room. Quayle ironically said that the possibility of a U.S. troop invasion of Cuba would be illogical because it could not be similar to the one staged on 20 December in Panama.

Dan Quayle said that the conditions in Cuba are special and differ from those of Panama in terms of launching an attack. We read this report and thought about how a vice president of a powerful country such as the United States dares to say at a meeting with the Venezuelan president and the Spanish prime minister, who is also visiting Caracas, that the United States is not planning to invade Cuba with its troops because Cuba does not offer the special conditions that Panama did.

As we all recall, one of the objectives of Vice President Quayle's Latin American tour, ordered by President Bush, is to attempt to improve the United States' image in Latin America and the Caribbean. The U.S. vice president had the nerve to place a sword of Damocles over Cuba by suggesting a possible invasion of Cuba, but an invasion different from the one the United States undertook on 20 December in Panama.

We are tired of saying it in our newscasts: We, and high-level Cuban authorities, have denounced the atmosphere the United States has created since invading Panama. Taking advantage of the fact that the Sandinists lost in Nicaragua, it has created a certain atmosphere in the Caribbean toward Cuba. We all know how a Cuban merchant ship, the Herman, was recently attacked by a U.S. vessel near Mexican waters. We are also aware of a number of punitive measures against our country. Now these statements by Vice President Quayle in Caracas show the nerve with which the United States and its government are trying to intimidate our people.

We wanted to comment on this dispatch because it caught our attention. I discussed it with Radio Havana's editorial staff. We commented on how the vice president of such a powerful country had the nerve to say that they do not plan to invade Cuba because the special conditions that existed in Panama do not exist in Cuba.

Unknown Number of Human Rights Leaders Arrested

PA1103013790 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0014 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] Havana, 10 Mar (EFE)—An undetermined number of leaders of dissident human rights movements in Cuba were arrested in Havana by the police today, according to Gustavo Arcos, president of the Cuban Human Rights Committee.

Arcos said that Tania Diaz Castro, secretary general of the Cuban Human Rights Party (PPDHC), was arrested today, but he could not identify the others who were arrested.

The arrest of poet Tania Diaz and the other detainees could not be confirmed by the other members of the PPDHC because the principal leaders of these illegal groups could not be located.

Gustavo Arcos and his brother Sebastian, who is also a dissident, had to face different mass demonstrations of communist supporters in front of their houses this week, who shouted: Down with the worms (official name for dissidents).

Dissident sources have pointed out that the growing hostility toward human rights activists is taking place following the condemnation of Cuba at the UN Human Rights Commission on 5 March.

Cuban President Fidel Castro said in one of his latest speeches that the cockroaches that are trying to act as fifth columns will have to deal with the revolutionary fervor of the Cuban people.

As for the resolution of the UN Human Rights Commission, Castro said in his speech on 7 March that it is disgusting and that Cuba would not respect it.

The GRANMA newspaper, mouthpiece of the Cuban Communist Party, said in the its 9 March edition that the tiny group of dissidents are about to overstep the limits of the law and the tolerance of the people and the revolution.

Commentary Accuses U.S. of Anti-Libyan Campaign

FL0903153090 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Commentary by Juan Perez Dominguez]

[Text] The U.S. press resumed this week its traditional trend of launching false accusations against Libya now saying that chemical weapons are being built in that north Africa Arab country. Libya immediately denied the report and called it a lie inasmuch as the factory where that type of weapon is allegedly produced, as reported by influential U.S. media, was installed through a contract with the FRG, and it produces medicines.

I believe that Washington is pulling the strings to launch a new campaign to reactivate the U.S. policy against Libya and other progressive and independent countries. This should not come as a surprise if one considers the fact that exultant feelings prevail in the White House now and the Bush administration's arrogance and hostility are increasing because of the current complex international situation hampering the revolutionary and progressive movement in the world.

The events of the last few months in Eastern Europe; the Sandinist's electoral defeat in Nicaragua, caused by the dirty war and the economic blockade among other factors; and the relatively little international condemnation of the Yankee invasion in Panama, obviously encouraged U.S. leaders in their belief that they can continue violating the most elementary norms of coexistence on the planet and even in the cosmos, if it were possible.

In Libya's case, the campaign of false accusations orchestrated by the U.S. press in the last few days to feed feelings of hostility toward the Jamahiriyah is of concern when one considers that almost four years ago, on 15 April 1986, the U.S. Air Force criminally bombed the Cities of Tripoli and Benghazi, resulting in tens of deaths and wounded. The attack was perpetrated under the fabricated pretext that Libya was supporting terrorism.

The main goal of the air raid was to assassinate Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. His Tripoli house was virtually destroyed by the bombing. The event will remain in history as one of the acts of state terrorism most subject to repudiation which were decided upon by then-President Ronald Reagan.

In the days prior to the bombing, the U.S. media intensified their attacks against Libyan leaders, especially against Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, who was unhurt by the assassination attempt carried out by Washington.

Considering those antecedents, the international community should be alert so it can attempt to prevent and promptly denounce possible new U.S. military ventures and attacks on developing countries of the Third World that do not follow orders from the imperialists and have not benefited as they should have by the detente process taking place between superpowers.

Inter-Caribbean Affairs

Leaders Hold 'Very Frank' Talks With Quayle

FL1003202590 Bridgetown CANA in English 1951 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Report by Peter Richards and Mark Lee]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, March 10, CANA—The United States on Saturday [10 March] reassured Caribbean countries worried about the possibility of losing out to Eastern Europe and Latin America in the bid for developmental aid that they will not be ignored.

"Let me disabuse anyone that feels the United States is neglecting the Caribbean," U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle said after brief talks here Saturday with Caribbean leaders.

"We have been hearing a lot of discussions that somehow the United States is only interested in Eastern Europe and Central America...We are interested in the whole world.

"We are particularly interested in the Western Hemisphere. We are all Americans and the Western Hemisphere is composed of Americans and that includes the Caribbean ... And it is a priority that we, in fact, will continue to pay close attention to."

Some Caribbean leaders have voiced concern about the possibility of a sharp reduction in American aid as Washington moves to help the new U.S.-backed governments in Nicaragua and Panama and Eastern European countries where hardline communist leaders have lost power in recent months.

Quayle on Saturday held 40 minutes of discussions with leaders from Barbados and five eastern Caribbean states at the official residence of the U.S. charge d'affaires—"Graeme Hallcourt"—a few miles outside the capital, Bridgetown. He described the talks with Prime Ministers Erskine Sandiford of Barbados, John Compton of St. Lucia, Eugenia Charles of Dominica, Dr. Kennedy Simmonds of St. Kitts and Nevis, and James Mitchell of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, as well as Lester Bird, deputy prime minister of Antigua and Barbuda, as "very frank".

For the Caribbean, the United States has been a major source of development aid and an important market.

The leaders said on the eve of the talks with Quayle that they wanted an improvement in trade with the United States under the Caribbean Basin Initiative [CBI], an arrangement allowing several products from Central America and the Caribbean duty-free access to the U.S. market. They also wanted an asurance from the United States that aid would not dwindle.

Quayle gave no indication of what the level of aid to the Caribbean would be this year, saying: "I am not going to get into the numbers game".

Speaking to the press after the meeting with Quayle, St. Vincent and the Grenadines Prime Minister James Mitchell said the leaders were assured the U.S. assistance to the region would continue regardless of its "responses to Eastern Europe."

Mitchell said that the vice president was not familiar with all the details of U.S. aid to the Caribbean, but the heads explained that European Community assistance under the Lome Trade and Aid Convention was programmed over four year periods and they would like to see a similar formalised arrangement with Washington.

Asked whether the meeting was [words indistinct].

"We talked very quickly. We'll now have to wait and see whether we got our message across," he quipped.

The Vincentian leader said preliminary discussions were held with Quayle and Democratic Senator Edward Kennedy on matters such as expanding a training scheme for artisans, problems with regards to aid, and the development of infrastructure. They also discussed the revised CBI (CBI Two) now before the U.S. Senate.

On hemispheric matters, Mitchell, who was observer at the recent Nicaraguan election, gave the vice president his "impression and perspective of the electoral process" in the Central American country. "We also discussed the need to work together to see to it that free and fair elections are held in Haiti," Mitchell told the newsmen.

Quayle held separate talks with Sandiford on political and economic matters soon after he arrived here Friday [9 March]. The vice president promised Sandiford to look at the possiblity of speeding up negotiations on a double taxation treaty as requested by the prime minister during a recent visit to Washington.

"We will be willing to pursue the talks on this very important subject to Barbados," Quayle said.

Barbados wants the United States to restore a clause in the treaty providing federal excise tax exemption to us insurance companies based here.

"We have covered a lot of ground in terms of our economic and political relations," Sandiford reported Friday. "We have talked about matters relating to the democratic process, free and fair elections, human rights in Barbados and the United States, and the need for seeing that these particular aspects of our way of government are spread as much as possible throughout the hemisphere."

Quayle left Saturday afternoon for Chile.

Grenada's Prime Minister Not Present

FL1003143290 Bridgetown CANA in English 1347 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, March 10, CANA—Grenada's Prime Minister Ben Jones said on Saturday [10 March] he will not attend talks in Barbados between United States Vice President Dan Quayle and leaders of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States [OECS]. Jones told the CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY [CANA] during a telephone interview that campaigning for general elections on Tuesday [13 March] in Grenada prevented him from joining his OECS colleagues here Saturday for the talks, expected to be dominated by trade, aid, political, and illegal drugs issues.

"Because of the stage of the election campaign, it is considered inadvisable for me to attend the Barbados talks with Mr. Quayle," Jones said.

Jones said he hoped the discussions would prove to be beneficial to the seven-member group of developing countries.

"I do wish the meeting to be successful and the talks to be the kind of contact that would lead to the Caribbean economic and social development, and greater consideration for the region from the United States," he added.

Jones said Grenada would not be represented at the talks because "it is my understanding that the vice president would like to meet with leaders...So we can't send a minister".

Jones' National Party is one of five established political parties contesting the election.

Montserrat Minister Not Invited

FL1003192190 Bridgetown CANA in English 1838 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, March 10, CANA—Montserrat's Chief Minister, John Osborne, said on

Saturday [10 March] it was "unfortunate" he did not get a chance to join Caribbean leaders here in talks with U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle.

Osborne was the only Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States leader not invited to the brief Saturday morning talks with Quayle.

In a telephone link-up with Montserrat, he told Canaradio, the radio service of the Barbados-based CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY [CANA], invitations were sent to only the leaders of independent OECS countries—Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia, Antigua and Barbuda, St. Kitts and Nevis, and St. Vincent.

Montserrat is a British colony.

Osborne said it was unfortunate that he was not given a chance to present Montserrat's case to Quayle.

Montserrat has been seeking a major inflow of aid for a rehabilitation programme following last September's battering by Hurricane Hugo. The hurricane damaged or destroyed most of the buildings on the island. Osborne reported that "nearly all schools are back in use" and housing rehabilitation was proceeding apace.

Quayle left for Chile Saturday afternoon after wide-ranging talks with the OECS leaders and the Barbados Prime Minister Erskine Sandiford.

Quayle Departs Barbados

FL1003191190 Bridgetown CANA in English 1758 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, March 10, CANA—United States Vice President Dan Quayle left here on Saturday [10 March] after holding wide-ranging talks with government leaders from Barbados and the eastern Caribbean. Quayle and his wife, Marilyn, are heading for Chile.

Haiti

Avril Said To Appoint New Crisis Cabinet

PA0903170590 Paris AFP in Spanish 1632 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 9 Mar (AFP)—A reliable source here reported that President General Prosper Avril last night appointed a civilian-military crisis cabinet of five members to face the worsening situation in the country.

The names of the new cabinet members are not yet known. According to the source, General Avril might announce other important decisions today, one day after demonstrations that left three dead and at least 12 wounded in Port-au-Prince.

Yesterday, two civilians were shot and killed and a soldier was lynched by a mob, while thousands of youths erected barricades, burned tires, and chanted antigovernment slogans in downtown streets.

Schools and stores were closed today and there were few vehicles and people on the streets.

According to several private radio stations, hundreds of youths were again gathering this morning in some sectors and erecting barricades.

According to Radio Metropolis, security forces arrested many people.

Demonstrations are scheduled today in several provincial cities, especially in Cap Haitien, the country's second largest city, 260 km north of the capital.

Reports on Unrest in Country 8, 9 March

Fires, Protests Reported

FL0903181890 Port-au-Prince Radio Antilles Internationales in Creole 1230 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] Last night, after Roseline Vaval's funeral, the population of Petit Goave burned down the Petit Goave military outpost, with Sergeant Blanchard inside. They also set fire to the house of an adjutant in (Larak), after destroying that town's prefecture and destroying the materials inside that prefecture.

Also, last night in Gonaives, the population uprooted [dechouke] the town's magistrate and prefect. We will have more details on this later from our correspondent Hermann Hermano.

There are many barricades this morning in Saint-Marc. National Highway One is blocked. Also, Saint-Marc looks deserted. Not one child has gone to school.

In Port-au-Prince this morning, no children have gone to school. Activities are at a slowdown. People are watching the situation.

Feneh [National Federation of Haitian Students] has announced it is holding a meeting at the Faculty of Science this morning at 0900, so students and staunch patriots will know how to contribute to the Haitian people's struggle to crush the tough, evil regime of General Prosper Avril.

The group composed of 11 political parties and the civilian society Committee for the Respect of the Constitution has applauded the demonstrations held yesterday in Port-au-Prince and has also asked the Haitian people to remain vigilant. It has also denounced the forceful actions taken by soldiers against demonstrators in Saint-Marc, in Port-au-Prince, where one person was killed, and in Carrefour [a section of Port-au-Prince], where two people were killed.

Haiti and Cuba are the only countries in the area preventing the Americas from being totally democratic, said George Bush. This is the first time the American President has made a public statement listing Haiti as one of the countries still holding out and preventing democracy from blossoming. The revolution continues.

The people have spoken in Nicaragua, and when they speak in Cuba and Haiti, our continent will be totally free, said George Bush at a ceremony in honor of the U.S. soldiers who participated in the U.S. intervention in Panama.

More than 40 priests in the diocese of Port-au-Prince have stated their opinion regarding the current situation. These Catholic priests from the archdiocese say: Haitians, it is your right to ask for a government you can trust for you to go to elections. Everyone feels that for elections to be held in Haiti, there must be broad cooperative action for a cleanup and for justice in the government administrations. It is high time that people who have public responsibilities understood they must account to the judiciary for any criminal acts or abuses of power they commit. Criminals and thieving officials, both military and civilian, must realize it is not just an investigation yielding no results that they will have to face when they shed people's blood and pillage state coffers.

Situation in Port-au-Prince

FL0903212590 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Editorial report] Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French at 1700 GMT on 9 March carries approximately forty-five minutes in both French and Creole on the situation in Port-au-Prince and Haiti's main provincial towns on 9 March. The announcer reports that in Port-au-Prince, antigovernment protests continue with flaming barricades erected across the capital's main streets and thoroughfares.

The announcer reports that "The police presence intensified at midmorning. Demonstrators at the barricade sites have been arrested. A National Federation of Haitian Students [Feneh] demonstration was dispersed brutally at the intersection of the Grande Rue and Joseph Janvier Street. Gunfire was heard. Activities are paralyzed in Port-au-Prince, where schools, businesses, and offices have remained closed."

According to a mobile unit report, there was panic in the capital, with arrests being made not just on the Grand Rue but also in various other parts of the capital, and the military continuing to shoot: "There are two vehicles filled with olive-green-clad military from the Presidential Guard out shooting together and this is creating a trulu great panic in that area." The announcer reports that one of those suffering a bullet wound was Jacques Pascal, secretary general of ZEL, or Students Affairs, missing since the demonstration of 8 March.

A second mobile unit reports that the situation in Carrefour was less tense on the morning of 9 March than on 8 March but that traffic was still impossible because of the flaming barricades erected all over the area; also that there was an approximately 500-person anti-Avril demonstration in the streets, dispersed at approximately 1030 by Presidential Guard soldiers, who fired into the air and employed tear gas. This mobile unit adds that an approximately 300-person Feneh demonstration demanding Avril's resignation was dispersed at the intersection of Joseph Janvier Street and Grande Rue by Presidential Guard soldiers, who made arrests and struck demonstrators with billy clubs.

Another mobile unit adds: "On Joseph Janvier Street, there was great brutality. Soldiers and armed civilians violently struck passersby and fleeing demonstrators. People who were at home were forced outside to lift the barricades in the area."

The announcer recalls that "yesterday's antigovernment demonstrations in Port-au-Prince left three people dead, among them a soldier lynched by the crowd in Carrefour. The two other victims were killed by soldiers who fired to disperse the demonstrators. Correspondent Lionel Exantus in Saint-Marc reports that there were flaming barricades throughout the town on 9 March. He further reports that traffic is blocked; and schools, businesses, and public offices have remained closed. He continues by saying that gun shots have been heard and that police were called in to intervene when 200 demonstrators set fire to more tires. He reports the crowds swelled to 1000 demonstrators. He concludes by saying that the "Pont Sonde area is a veritable hell with fires. The police are firing into the air. No vehicle can get past Saint-Marc at this time. The barracks are incapable of providing security for all the people in Saint-Marc."

A mobile unit reports in that students from the Feneh demonstration claim that other demonstrators have been killed.

The report continues with correspondent Pierre Nazon Boliere reporting that Jacmel is extremely quiet this morning with no schools open, few businesses open, and no public transport to Port-au-Prince. He further adds that the Peasants Movement of the Southeast has issued a press release stating that General Avril has left the country. Boliere says a demonstration is scheduled for today in Cayes-Jacmel.

Metropole, quoting AFP, reports the formation of a civilian-military crisis cabinet by President Avril but is unable to provide any details. The Gonaives correspondent reports that the population of Gonaives took to the streets joyfully at 2030 on 8 March believing that Gen. Avril had left Haiti. They looted the magistrate's residence, destroying and burning things. Metropole next reports that a member of the Feneh leadership says that a Feneh leader, Fedner Joseph, is missing, following the dispersion of this morning's Feneh demonstration. The Feneh leader reports that that Palace soldiers dispersed the demonstration "firing into the crowd at shoulder level" and that "six or eight soldiers together would beat up a student."

3d Demonstration in Gonaives

FL1003004790 Port-au-Prince Radio Haiti-Inter Creole 2100 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Report by Gonaives reporter Patrick Cherilus]

[Excerpts] Since approximately 1100 and for the third time this week, one thousand people have been demonstrating in the streets of Gonaives and for the third time this week, demanding the departure of General Avril's government. [passage omitted]

There was a mass in memory of Roseline Vaval at the chapel of La Providence Hospital in Gonaives. The mass was followed by a procession. [passage omitted] All activities are paralyzed in Gonaives today, 9 March. [passage omitted] No student has gone to school in Gonaives since the 6 March demonstration.

This is Patrick Cherilus, Radio Haiti-Inter, Gonaives. [This same newscast also reports several small student demonstrations in Port-de-Paix and in Hinche.]

Demonstrations in Other Towns

FL1003011290 Port-au-Prince Radio Haiti-Inter in Creole 2100 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Excerpts] [Announcer] In Cap-Haitien, Haiti's second largest city, things were very tense on 8 March. A demonstration today followed two masses celebrated in memory of Roseline Vaval, who died in Petit Goave on 5 March. [passage omitted]

Our correspondent in Les Cayes reports that some 4,000 to 5,000 people took to the streets in Les Cayes today to again ask Gen. Prosper Avril to uproot his cassava plants and leave.

[Begin recording] [Reporter Jean Oscar] [passage omitted] Two organizers of the demonstrations told us the demonstrations will not stop until Avril leaves. They said they will demonstrate with an ever greater vengeance daily in Les Cayes. [passage omitted]

[Unidentified speaker] I, as a representative of the PAIN [National Agricultural and Industrial Party] must agree with what the president of the PDCH [Haitian Christian Democratic Party] has said. It is not we who say we are not going home. It is the Haitian people saying they will remain in the streets until it is all over. We note there was a clash in the savannah between the Army and the people. We hope everything will return to normal and that the people will demonstrate until Avril departs.

[Oscar] There were also demonstrations today in Camp Perrin and Duchity. More than 600 people took to the streets to demand Gen. Avril's departure. Tension is running high here. [passage omitted]

This is Jean Renel Oscar for Radio Haiti-Inter. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Parties Call Strike, Elect Provisional President

PA1003041590 Paris AFP in Spanish 0235 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Port-Au-Prince, 9 Mar (AFP)—Twelve Haitian political parties, including the country's major parties, today urged the population to "completely paralyze" the country through a general strike "beginning" 12 March if General Prosper Avril, president of the Haitian military government, refuses to leave power.

The 12 political parties, ranging from communists to moderate centrist parties, in the Assembly for Concerted Action [Asamblea de Concertacion] announced that they have unanimously elected Gabriel Volcy, current vice president of the Court of Appeal, as the new Haitian provisional president.

The 12 political parties also offered the members of the Army and the presidential guard "guarantees that there will be no reprisals against them and that all their rights will be respected."

The political parties asked the Armed Forces' High Commissioner "to prepare to certify Gen. Avril's resignation and to undertake all the necessary measures to guarantee the inauguration of the new head of the provisional government."

The 12 political parties asked the Army in general and the soldiers of the presidential guard in particular to obey the orders of the General Staff and "to stop shooting at an unarmed population."

In addition to the social-centrist coalition National Alliance for Democracy and Progress, the Assembly for Concerted Action includes the major opposition parties such as the Haitian Christian Democratic Party, the Mobilization for National Development Party, and the Unified Party of Haitian Communists.

Presidential Guards Refuse Avril Departure

FL1003002790 Port-au-Prince Radio Haiti-Inter in Creole 2100 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] It is being said that the Presidential Guard soldiers have refused to listen to anything about General Avril's leaving, even if they were offered guarantees. [passage omitted]

The brutal dispersion of the 8 March demonstration in front of the Palace was the reason a group of people in Carrefour lynched a sergeant who was passing on a motorcycle. Today the palace soldiers are very tense. [passage omitted]

Accept 'Constitutional Solution'

PA1003141590 Paris AFP in Spanish 1338 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Excerpts] Port-au-Prince, 10 Mar (AFP)—The Presidential Guard, the foundation of the military regime

presided over by General Prosper Avril, no longer opposes a "constitutional solution" to the Haitian crisis, according to statements made this morning to AFP by a source close to Gen. Avril.

According to the source, this outcome may occur over the course of the day and must satisfy everyone involved. [passage omitted]

The source said today that Avril may relinquish power, but hoped, nevertheless, that his departure would be without "incident" and with "guarantees."

Avril To Resign; Abrahams Temporary Replacement

FL1003180790 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1726 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Monitored in progress]

[Excerpts] [Unidentified reporter] ...in Port-au-Prince, demonstration [words indistinct] which was dispersed with tear gas by police from the Cafeteria [police post on Grande Rue].

[Announcer Clarens] We will now hear from Mobile Unit 15, which saw the same things: demonstrations of joy in Port-au-Prince to celebrate the departure of General Prosper Avril.

As we announced in an earlier news bulletin, according to diplomatic sources, Gen. Avril is to announce his resignation today. However, nothing has yet been done. National Haitian Television has not made any announcements indicating that such a statement will be forthcoming. However, according to diplomatic sources that have contacted us today or that we ourselves have personally contacted—and also according to the AFP correspondent in Port-au-Prince, Gen. Avril is to personally announce his resignation today as both head of the military government and head of the Army.

Gen. Avril will reportedly be replaced temporarily for 48 or 72 hours by Gen. Herard Abraham, the current interim commander in chief of the Haitian Armed Forces. Gen. Abraham is reportedly supposed to, in turn, hand power over to a member of the Court of Cassation, who is to be assisted by a council of state, as requested by the 12 opposition parties. [passage omitted]

In Port-au-Prince today, after the flaming barricades were erected, there were joyful demonstrations in the street, demonstrations which were dispersed with tear gas by the police posted around the Cafeteria. [Mobile 15 reporter] William also told us there was a demonstration in the Delmas area. Mobile 15?

[William] Indeed Clarens, there are manifestations of joy all over the capital today, particularly along Delmas Road, where people are now expressing their delight. [passage omitted] [William switches to Creole] The slogans being chanted a while ago were: Give us Manigat; Avril has left; and Haiti has been liberated. [passage omitted]

[Clarens] Thank you mobile units 20 and 15. The time is 1227. [passage omitted]

Negotiations on Avril's Exit Delay Announcement

FL1003195090 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1914 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Montreal, 10 Mar (NOTIMEX)—The house of Daniel Narcisse, member of General Prosper Avril's cabinet, was looted and burned by the Port-au-Prince population who also attacked the radio station [Radio Liberte] belonging to Serge Beaulieu, another member of the government. Early this afternoon, a group of people destroyed the house belonging to Narcisse, who is minister of Haitian residents abroad. In another neighborhood, the radio station belonging to journalist Serge Beaulieu was attacked after Avril asked soldiers to shoot at the people. [sentence as received]

These events took place in Port-au-Prince. No official announcement has yet been made on Gen. Avril's departure. The government has neither confirmed nor denied the remarks made by French Ambassador Jean-Raphael Dufour who said that Gen. Avril would turn the government over to Army Commander Herard Abraham.

According to a journalistic source in the Haitian capital, general violence could erupt if Avril attempts to stay in the country,.

Charismatic priest Jean-Bertrand Aristide called on the population to mobilize without interruption because there will be no peace as long as Avril remains in the country. Aristide, whose political clout is considered to be significant, asked the population to take to the streets only when Avril's departure from the country is announced.

The same source also reported that the announcement of Avril's departure has been delayed because he is still attempting to stay in Haiti, which is totally unacceptable to the opposition.

General Abraham Announces Avril Resignation

FL1003205890 Port-au-Prince Radio Antilles Internationales in French 2100 GMT 10 Mar 90

["Text" of statement by the General Headquarters of the Haitian Armed Forces, FADH; read by General Herard Abraham, interim commander in chief of the FADH—recorded]

[Text] People of Haiti: in view of the resignation of the president of the military government, Lt. Gen. Prosper Avril, FADH, the FADH accepts the heavy burden placed upon it, since this is the form that the duty to serve and defend the fatherland takes today. The mission is clear and the objective precise: reestablish peace and order within 72 hours to turn the government over to a provisional government in conformity with the spirit of the Constitution, a government whose task it will be to organize elections.

This is a true challenge, and the Haitian Army, exhibiting discipline and esprit de corps around a grand ideal, will have to use every possible means to achieve this ideal.

This mission will be facilitated if everyone—political leaders, religious and moral authorities, and leaders of opinion—collaborates to make it a success. Thus, the people, with the assistance of their Army—instead of against it—will see realized a first step toward the denouement of the current institutional crisis in our country.

Assumes Power; Delivers Message

PA1003210990 Paris AFP in Spanish 2056 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 10 Mar (AFP)—General Herard Abraham, in his position as acting commander in chief of the Haitian Army, assumed power in Haiti today for 72 hours following General Prosper Avril's resignation.

In a brief televised message, Abraham—who appeared alone on the screen—announced that he will turn over power in 72 hours to a provisional government which will be in charge of organizing elections.

Promises Democratic Civilian Rule

LD1103093290 Paris Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] General Prosper Avril has been head of state of Haiti for 18 months, one and a half years of chaotic power that ended last evening. Having come to power after a coup d'etat in September 1988, General Avil has resigned. The new strongman is General Abraham, but he does not intend to retain power. He explained last night to reporter [indistinct name]

[Begin recording] [Abraham] The priority task is to reestablish order and peace with a view to handing over power to a civilian provisional president. I have just finished a meeting with the group of twelve [opposition political parties], and contacts will be maintained so within the next seventy-two hours we can come to a consensus so the provisional president may be nominated.

[Reporter] We will not see dictatorship again?

[Abraham] No, no, no. This is a turned page.

[Reporter] Is there also a risk that the Army may influence the political power?

[Abraham] No, the problem will not arise because the Army has a professional task, and we are going to structure it so it will respect the tasks given it by the Constitution. There will be no problem between the Army and the political power.

[Reporter] But could the transition be troubled by street movements?

[Abraham] I believe that we have almost succeeded in resolving this problem. The Army has called for calm, and the group of twelve and the other sectors of national life have promised to call for calm as well.

[Reporter] All agree on democracy then.

[Abraham] Yes, everyone agrees, there is no doubt about that.

[Reporter] And the Army, too?

[Abraham, laughing] Certainly, certainly, and the Army already has an attitude that augurs well for democracy. [end recording]

The military seem, then, to be willing to leave power in Port-Au-Prince, but the situation remain tense in Haiti. Last night six persons were killed by a policeman as they were about to loot his house.

Aristide: Avril 'Not Willing To Leave Country'

FL1003213990 Port-au-Prince Radio Antilles Internationales in French 1830 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] A reliable source announced early this morning that negotiations continue, and that there would be a denouement to the crisis within the next few hours. Shortly after this report, the population reacted—or at least a well-known Haitian figure did: Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

[Begin Aristide recording, in Creole] This is a great danger hanging over the head of the entire nation and sustained only by a spider web. I mean, according to the ongoing negotiations, General Prosper Avril is allegedly willing to leave the palace but not the country. He is, as yet, not willing to leave the country.

Now, if he leaves the palace but does not leave the country, just imagine what kind of a danger to us this represents. Clearly, we are going to have this same Avril carrying out, behind the scenes, the same work he used to do under Francois and Jean-Claude Duvalier and company. He will regroup his macoutes and give them weapons and money, and insecurity will reappear with an even greater vengence. Murders, both day and night, will reappear with an even greater vengence, and crime and the high cost of living will continue in Haiti.

For this reason, people from the four corners of our Haiti: gallant men and women who have risen up in Carrefour, Saint-Marc, Les Cayes, Cap-Haitien, Jacmel, Jeremie, Port-au-Prince, Petit Goave, the central plateau, and everywhere else; now you must continue to rise up, in an orderly and disciplined manner, to demand that Avril leave not only the National Palace but Haiti. Because we have not yet attained the alternative government that has the prestige and the judiciary to take Avril and judge him.

Because we do not have this force....[changes thought] For we are not going to lie to ourselves about this and go

play games with such a devil. The devil has horns on his head and money in his hands. We cannot play games with such a devil. He must go.

Sometime in the future we will grab and bring to trial any government and any president that commits abuses or crimes such as this against the people. Today, however, we do not have the means to do this. [end recording]

Parties, Abraham Discuss Avril; Capital 'Calm'

PA1103045890 Paris AFP in Spanish 0350 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] Port-Au-Prince, 10 Mar (AFP)—The Assembly for Concerted Action, composed of Haiti's 12 most important parties, has described the presence of General Prosper Avril in the country following his resignation as president of the republic as "undesirable."

General Herard Abraham, who has assumed supreme power for 72 hours, made this known during a meeting tonight described as "constructive and positive" by alliance representatives. The meeting, attended by a representative of each of the 12 parties, was held at the Army headquarters in the capital.

The 12 parties reaffirmed their willingness to appoint Gabriel Volcy, vice president of the Court of Appeals, as provisional president within three days.

The representatives of the Assembly for Concerted Action will hold a press conference on 11 March. This alliance is composed, among others, of the Movement for the Installation of Democracy, Unified Party of Haitian Communists, Christian Democratic Party, Nationalist and Progressive Revolutionary Party (Socialist), and the National Congress of Democratic Movements (Konakom).

The capital recovered its calm tonight following mass demonstrations and looting at party headquarters and the residences of people linked to former President Avril.

Parties Still Call for 12 Mar General Strike

PA1103191290 Paris AFP in Spanish 1953 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 11 Mar (AFP)—The 12 principal parties of Haiti today decided to maintain the call for a general strike for 12 March to obtain the departure from the country of Former President General Prosper Avril, who resigned on 10 March and who continues to represent "a danger" to the country.

Gen. Avril was replaced by General Herard Abraham, who before 12 March must yield power to a provisional civilian government.

At a news conference, the parties grouped in the Assembly for Concerted Action called on citizens to mobilize and form special "vigilance brigades" in the neighborhoods to "protect the population."

Army Officer Killed in Port-au-Prince Incident

PA1103194890 Paris AFP in Spanish 1859 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 11 Mar (AFP)—Major Renault Simper, a Haitian Army officer, was killed in this capital by unidentified persons, several radio stations reported here, citing eyewitnesses.

The officer was killed in the neighborhood of Delmas in the northern part of the capital where there was shooting, the sources added.

Avril Leaves; Provisional President Chosen

FL1203152390 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1200 GMT 12 Mar 90

[Monitored in progress]

[Text] [Unidentified reporter, speaking in mixed French and Creole] ...[words indistinct]. Nevertheless, the officer confirmed the news for us and said there will be a press release issued within the next few minutes or hours. In any case, we are confirming the news of General Prosper Avril's departure very early this morning.

We also confirmed the news of Gen. Avril's departure here at the airport. He left the airport at 0623 [1023 GMT] for the United States accompanied by his immediate family—meaning his wife and children—and by former collaborators of his.

In any case, we are going to try, within half an hour, to have further details for you on what we've already said—how many people left with him—and, probably, regarding the precise destination. In any case, we know that he is going to the United States, and he left Port-au-Prince this morning at exactly 0623 aboard an American plane.

That is all we know.

Other news: We can tell you that we will perhaps be informed very early this morning, at around 0900 [1400 GMT], of the denouement of the crisis within the group of 12 political parties that were to choose a member [as heard] as provisional president. We have learned that they have finally agreed on a choice of a member of the group of 12—and that this choice will be made public as of 0900. Radio Metropole is on site to inform you about the new provisional Haitian president, who, with an 18-member [State] Council will ensure the transition. The group of 12 opposition parties from the Assembly for Concerted Action will present the new provisional president it has chosen to put an end to the crisis; and this new president will probably take office on 13 March.

We ask you to stay tuned to Radio Metropole. We will soon have more details for you on these events. Thank you.

Ertha Trouillot Named Provisional President

FL1203154690 Port-au-Prince Radio Antilles Internationales in French 1230 GMT 12 Mar 90

[Text] In a big first in the history of Haiti, Mrs. Ertha Trouillot, a judge from the Court of Cassation, has been chosen to preside over the transition government. Mrs. Trouillot will be assisted by a nine-member Council of State as had been requested by the Assembly for Concerted Action composed of 11 political parties and the Unity Committee for the Respect of the Constitution. Mobile Unit Nine will give us some details about Mrs. Trouillot.

[Reporter] Mrs. Trouillot graduated from Gonaives Law School in Gonaives in July of 1971. According to the information we have obtained, she was at the top of her class from the beginning to the end of her studies. She was the first student in Haiti, after four years of study, to present and defend a thesis, which had just become mandatory for obtaining the degree of Bachelor of Law.

She was sworn in as a lawyer on 8 October 1971, (?henceforth) arguing cases in all jurisdictions—courts of conciliation, civil courts, courts of appeals, and the Court of Cassation.

We have reports that she had to courageously confront colleaques who were not yet in the habit of working with women. For the first time in Haiti's judicial history, thanks to Mrs. Trouillot, a woman became a member of the council of the Order of Lawyers at the Port-au-Prince bar. Also for the first time, women, among them Mrs. Trouillot, were allowed to be part of the defunct women's section of the commission to recast the Haitian Civil Code, which brought together Haiti's leading jurists of the time.

Mrs. Trouillot also has a diploma from a business school. She is an Alliance Francaise laureate and a member of the Association of French-language Writers and of the American Bar Association [preceding name in English] of Washington—two groups that are rather difficult to enter.

Mrs. Trouillot wrote an important book in 1973: "The Legal Status of the Haitian Woman in Social Legislation." She also wrote, with her now-deceased husband Ernst Trouillot, "The Code of Usuages of Everyday Laws."

It seems Mrs. Trouillot has lately been working on the first dictionary of Haitian proper names. She has children, one of whom is named (Yanta) Trouillot.

These are the first pieces of information we have been able to obtain. We are, of course, still seeking further information for our listeners.

This is mobile unit nine. Thank you, studio.

Capital Quiet, Population Awaits Watchword

FL1203161290 Port-au-Prince Radio Antilles Internationales in French 1230 GMT 12 Mar 90

[Excerpt] That was mobile unit six, which is out in the streets of Port-au-Prince, relating how the situation looks after the departure of General Prosper Avril. The streets are almost empty. All activities are paralyzed. The population is awaiting the watchword from the Assembly for Concerted Action which is made up 11 political parties and the Respect of the Constitution Group before they resume their usual activities. [passage omitted]

Salinas Urges PRI Militants To Promote Change

PA0703174290 Mexico City THE NEWS in English 28 Feb 90 p 2

[Report by Anne Labrousse]

[Text] Describing Mexican society as "more diverse, pluralistic, and mature," President Carlos Salinas de Gortari challenged militants of the PRI Tuesday [27 February] to spearhead popular initiatives toward social change and nationalism.

President Salinas de Gortari said that PRI militants must promote transformation toward a new political culture which is enterprising, serious, committed and innovative.

The president delivered his remarks Tuesday as he chaired a meeting of the National Confederation of Popular Organizations (CNOP) at the presidential residence of Los Pinos.

The CNOP is one of the three main organizations of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI). It is comprised of the Confederation of Mexican Workers, the National Campesino Central, and trade groups. It is currently undergoing internal restructuring.

Attending the meeting were PRI President Luis Donaldo Colosio Murrieta, and CNOP leader and former senator Silvia Hernandez.

Hernandez said that in the course of this year, the CNOP has held more than 1,000 internal elections to restructure and modernize its field leadership.

In a reference to social change in Mexico, the President noted the emerging activist role of citizen groups.

"Undoubtedly, as we can observe daily, Mexico has changed, as has the CNOP. Mexican society is more diverse, pluralistic, and mature. Its middle class has access to information and a capacity for initiative unsuspected in the past," Salinas said.

"Groups from popular neighborhoods emerge with common interests such as the environment, human rights, combating drug addiction, and above all, urban matters related to living in big cities," he said.

"It is clear that our nationalism is based on the just demand of every Mexican that we become a united and vigorous nation in the world, not isolated or against other nations, but within the growing interdependency in which we live," Salinas said.

The president said the CNOP has obtained impressive results toward new political cooperation and a more open and efficient organization of the party's work.

He said the action of medium size groups and popular organizations is crucial at this moment"...when the PRI is trying to bring the changes demanded by the immense majority of Mexicans."

Proposes 6 PRI Reforms

PA0803225690 Mexico City XHTV Television in Spanish 0205 GMT 5 Mar 90

[Text] Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari has presented six major reforms to the Institutional Revolutionary Party [PRI] which it must implement if it is to stay democratically in power as a majority force.

Presiding over the commemoration of the 61st anniversary of the founding of the PRI yesterday, Salinas advised that the Mexican revolution and democratic freedoms will be threatened if certain obstacles and procrastination are not overcome.

According to the first proposal, PRI candidates for public election posts will be selected through democratic mechanisms and by considering the proposed candidate's extensive participation in the party's activities. Personal merit, leadership, and true power to modernize the society are the factors that will determine if a particular member is selected as candidate.

The second proposal, the president said, is that it is necessary for internal tendencies in the party to express themselves through the PRI's organization, leadership, and political actions. Discussion and disagreements in the party are not only permitted, but necessary when there is revolutionary conviction.

The third proposal, Salinas said, is that the source of party funds should be clear and that these funds should be used responsibly, as the electoral law stipulates. This is the only way to guarantee party activities in Mexico without the excesses of organizations that depend on internal or outside economic interests, which thus harm the party's integrity and threaten its independence.

The fourth proposal is that state and municipal leaders be allowed to make their own decisions apart from the centralized leadership.

As point five, he proposed the creation of a new leadership school because the Political Training Institute has already fulfilled its mission.

As the sixth reform, the party's national leadership said the party requires a collegiate organization capable of truly incorporating the regional forces and at the same time establishing a common ideological directorate. Salinas said that, with this new type of directorate, the image created by some small groups which thought they decided everything, will be eliminated.

If the PRI wants to stay in power democratically, it must listen to the voices of its members and followers, Salinas said to the national, state, and municipal leaders who met at the Plutarco Elias Calles auditorium.

PRI, Labor Union Dismiss Conflict; See Unity

PA0703172590 Mexico City THE NEWS in English 25 Feb 90 p 2

[Text] The PRI and the CTM will continue to march together shoulder to shoulder, and the idea of a confrontation between the two exists only in the minds of those who would foil our hopes and common aspirations, said Luis Donaldo Colosio, head of the PRI national executive committee in Campeche Saturday [24 February].

Speaking at the 61st national CTM assembly beginning Saturday here, Colosio reiterated that the modernization of Mexico does not imply either submission or subordination of labor.

He said that recent labor problems, notably the Ford Motor co. and the Modelo brewery, were the work of small party agitators trying to invalidate worker rights for the benefit of their political schemes.

He said these groups are not trying to improve the lot of labor but to swell their own weak numbers through confrontations and intolerance. Praising veteran CTM leader Fidel Velasquez, Colosio said Fidel was the victor of basic battles in favor of organized labor which benefitted all Mexican workers.

Labor Secretary Arsenio Farrel Cubillas, also present at the general assembly, said Mexico's labor movemetnt is threatened by violence excercised by minority groups seeking to take over the country.

He added that even so, the rights of labor and their right to strike are the basic pillars on which the nation's progress rests.

Referring to the two conflicts mentioned above, Farrel Cubillas said there is no agency or company big enough to limit legal precepts related with strikes. These are a Constitutional benefit and remains unrestricted," he said. [no opening quotation marks as published]

Alvarez Elected National Action Party President

PA0703180390 Mexico City THE NEWS in English 26 Feb 90 p 2

[Report by Felix Arciniega]

[Text] Luis Hector Alvarez Sunday [25 February] was elected president of the conservative National Action Party (PAN) in a decisive fourth round vote by the 208 delegates to elect a leader for the crucial 1990-1993 period, it was reported here. Alvarez, 70, received 139 votes against the 69 of his closest competitor, Gabriel Jimenez Remus in the fourth round of voting ending after midnight Saturday [24 February]. The tight election was said to be an indication of the division between those members who seek to maintain dialogue with the present administration (Alvarez) and those who would reclaim the party's total independence (Jimenez Remus).

The PAN is the strongest opposition party to face the ruling PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party]. It has 101 seats in the lower house while the PRI has 260.

Last October, the PAN was accused by some of its members of associating with the PRI to approve the electoral reforms called anti-democratic by some and favor the PRI.

Since Nov. 1, the PAN won the first election for state governor by the opposition in modern history.

5 Dead in Police Clash With PRD Militants

PA0703150890 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0639 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] Mexico City, 6 Mar (EFE)—Five persons—three of whom were policemen—were killed today in Guerrero State, southwestern Mexico, in clashes between the police and militants of the Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD), an opposition party.

Government sources said that two policemen were killed when the police tried to expel PRD members from the mayor's office in Cruz Grande. The PRD members were protesting what they described as fraudulent results of the municipal elections held in December.

According to the report, PRD members fired M-15 rifles at the policemen, who had been ordered by the state government to clear the municipal building. The Guerrero State government this morning ordered that eight of the state's 20 mayors' offices, including the one in Cruz Grande, be vacated by the PRD members who were occupying them.

PRD spokesmen said during a news conference in this capital that two protesters were killed in Ometepec in clashes with security forces.

The news agency NOTIMEX reported that another policeman was killed during the confrontations, thus confirming the death toll of five cited by Guerrero Governor Francisco Ruiz.

Approximately 60 PRD supporters have been killed in violent incidents since the 1988 elections, which were won by President Carlos Salinas de Gortari but which the opposition claims were rigged. Twenty of the 60 victims have been killed this year.

El Salvador

Cristiani Views Attacks; Chile Trip Cancelled

PA1003045890 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0354 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] President Alfredo Cristiani has expressed regret over the actions of the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] in various parts of San Salvador last night, because they only harm the people, Cristiani said.

President Cristiani, however, has reiterated the government's will in finding a solution to the conflict through the dialogue process.

In Cristiani's opinion, the military actions of the guerrilla movement in San Salvador last night must not halt the dialogue or negotiation process. Although he regretted the FMLN's position, Cristiani reiterated his administration's desire to continue the negotiations to bring about harmony among all Salvadorans.

[Cristiani] "Our position regarding the search for a political solution to the conflict has not and will not change. We believe that is the best option. We will continue working and cooperating with the good offices of the UN secretary general's envoy, who left for Mexico on 8 March to talk to the FMLN and discuss issues that we discussed with him here. These actions will not alter our position regarding the need to seek a prompt, political solution to the Salvadoran conflict."

In statements to the press and after presiding over the swearing-in ceremony of the judges who will comprise the National Council of the Judiciary, President Cristiani has stressed that the FMLN's actions are not justified.

Cristiani has also met with the various groups and political party leaders to discuss the problems and discontent resulting from the new economic measures and to prevent the poor from being harmed by them.

[Cristiani] "We want an open and frank analysis of the country's economic problems; we also want an analysis of the different options facing us as we try to prevent economic problems that have occurred in other countries from occurring in ours."

According to the president, the economic measures and the adjustment of the dollar exchange rate are intended to prevent the country from facing similar situations:

[Cristiani] "One cannot say that the government is devaluing the colon; that is not correct. [Words indistinct] that the non-banking [extra bancario] market is the one regulated by market forces, that is, by supply and demand. On certain occasions we have said that there are strange occurrences or events affecting our country's supply and demand; this in turn causes the non-banking market price of the dollar to fluctuate. We believe that sometimes it is nothing more than speculation."

The president, who will not be going to Chile for the presidential inauguration as planned, has said that Foreign Minister Dr. Manuel Pacas Castro will attend on his behalf. Afterward, the foreign minister will travel to Venezuela to establish cooperation agreements with that Andean country.

Ponce Says FMLN Too Weak for Major Offensive

PA1003201390 San Salvador Canal 6 Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Chief of Staff Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce said today that the Armed Forces have evidence that the guerrillas might launch a new military offensive within the next few days. According to Ponce, the Army has some documents proving that the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] is planning an action similar to that of November 1989. He said, however, that the rebels do not have the capacity to launch an operation similar to the one in November.

[Ponce] "There have been some declarations, in which people connected to the FMLN have said that it is preparing a similar operation to the November attack."

Some documents captured from the rebels mention a second attack. The first one was launched on 1 November, and this would be their second attack.

We have been in the war zones and really believe that the FMLN does not have the capacity to launch an operation like the November attack. However, they can continue with their terrorist attacks. They can try to continue with their sabotage actions and harming our economy. Col. Ponce referred to the extension of the state of siege. He said that although the Army has not commented on the issue, it supports the government's decision to restrict the right to assembly. He was clear in saying that the conditions that caused the decreeing of the state of siege still exist.

[Ponce] "We agree with what the executive, through the Cabinet, is doing, because the FMLN is attacking. It has not been able to reorganize various fake fronts for the staging of street violence. I believe that the conditions that caused the decreeing the state of siege still exist."

Colonel Ponce also said that it is not true that Colonel Guillermo Benavides, main suspect in the murder of six Jesuit priests, has at any time left his cell in the National Police headquarters. Ponce said that Col. Benavides has never received special treatment.

[Ponce] "A cage, even if it is gilded, is still a prison. Col. Benavides is under preventive arrest at the National Police Headquarters. He does not have any special comfort or luxury as has been said in a press dispatch. We are also sure, and we can confirm, that at no time has

he left his cell as reported in the article, which claims that Benavides had gone to the beach. All this is false."

Last week the U.S. State Department expressed its indignation over the special treatment that the Salvadoran Army and government are giving Col. Benavides, who is in the National Police Headquarters. According to some reports, Benavides spent last week in a hotel on the Salvadoran coast.

Attorney General Discusses Efforts To Oust Him

PA0903225790 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 6 Mar 90

[Text] Attorney General Mauricio Colorado today ruled out that U.S. authorities in the country are involved in an attempt to oust him from his job. Dr. Colorado said that the Zaldivar brothers [not further identified], supported by U.S. sectors, are trying to secure his dismissal, and he confirmed that he is the target of political attacks. Last week, San Salvador Mayor Armando Calderon Sol criticized his remarks.

[Begin recording] [Colorado] I do not think that the U.S. Embassy is involved but, I do believe that some U.S. citizens may want my dismissal, even these Zaldivar men, who have dual citizenship. They are Salvadorans when it suits them and U.S. citizens when it suits them. No doubt they are trying to harm the country. LA PRENSA GRAFICA carries a report that says the Zaldivars asked that U.S. aid to El Salvador be to stopped. If I am responsible for aid being stopped, I will very gladly leave. I do not want the United States to stop aid to El Salvador. I am a true Salvadoran, not a U.S. citizen whenever it suits my purpose.

The Zaldivars are U.S. citizens. We, who do love this long suffering country, are fighting an oligarchy that is trying to retake power, against communism, and we are fighting for El Salvador....[changes thought] As far I am concerned, I will fight alongside my people, to whom I belong. [end recording]

Regarding the case of U.S. citizen Jennifer Casolo, accused of cooperating with the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, Colorado said that the judicial branch is gathering more evidence for extradition. Apparently Casolo was released because there was no evidence against her.

[Begin recording] [Colorado] This case calls for an in-depth investigation because of what it entails: foreign meddling in El Salvador and the dignity of the Salvadoran people in administering justice to foreigners who come here to make trouble. The matter concerns whether Casolo will be tried by Salvadoran justice. There lies the importance of Casolo's case. [end recording]

Colorado made those statements after he and other top officials opened the first seminar on rape, being held at a San Salvador hotel from 5 to 19 March.

Government Communique on Desire for Dialogue

PA1103214590 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 9 Mar 90 p 2

["Official" government communique issued in San Salvador on 8 March]

[Text] 1. The El Salvador Government hereby informs domestic and foreign public opinion that President Alfredo Cristiani has traveled to New York to request UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's assistance in renewing the dialogue with the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front]. This action is being carried out in compliance with the agreements signed by the five Central American presidents in San Isidro de Coronado, and despite the FMLN's cruel and bloody aggression against civilians that started on 11 November 1989.

2. The UN secretary general was kind enough to accept the request made by Alfredo Cristiani and the other isthmian presidents in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 637. One of the first measures taken by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in this respect was to send his special representative, Alvaro de Soto, to the region, and Mr. de Soto has already held several meetings with the president and his dialogue commission, as well as with FMLN representatives.

3. Alfredo Cristiani has reaffirmed to Mr. de Soto his genuine will to find solutions to the armed conflict with a serious, non-tactical, and non-propagandistic dialogue. He reasserted that the clearest way for the rebels to show their desire for serious dialogue—as was firmly demanded by the Central American presidents in San Isidro de Coronado—would be to stop their terrorist actions against the civilian population.

The Central American presidents' statement in San Isidro de Coronado once again made a vehement call to the FMLN to stop all hostilities prior to a dialogue. Despite this, the Salvadoran Government has never included the Central American presidents' statement as a precondition to dialogue. Thus, the Salvadoran Government's charges that the statements made by FMLN representatives accusing us of blocking the peace effort are totally false. The FMLN members themselves are the ones who do not want to listen to the clamor of the people, who reject violence, and they are solely responsible for the continuation of terrorism because of their inflexible positions.

4. The Salvadoran Government wants to express its appreciation for Mr. de Soto's interest and hard work, and it wishes to honor the efforts made by the UN secretary general to contribute to the reestablishment of peace in El Salvador. San Salvador, 8 March 1990

Honduras Exhorted To Order Halt to Incursions

PA1103024890 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0025 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] As we have reported in the past few days, Honduran Army troops have entered Salvadoran territory through San Miguel and Morazan Departments to carry out kidnappings and robberies and commit abuses against Salvadoran civilians.

Honduran and Salvadoran troops clashed on 6 March leaving one dead and one wounded among the ranks of the 10th Regiment of Marcala, Honduras.

The FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] urges the government of Rafael Callejas and the Honduran Armed Forces' High Command to order the end to these incursions into El Salvador that are affecting humble civilians.

At a time when the peoples of the world are clamoring for peace through dialogue and understanding among nations, the Honduran Government must prevent further confrontations at other border areas, especially now that Honduras is burdened by a serious economic crisis and requires [words indistinct].

The FMLN reaffirms before the international community its determination to maintain its efforts in search of solutions to regional conflicts. With that in mind, it urges the Honduran Government to assume its responsibility in the previously mentioned incidents.

Fighting Reportedly Stopped in Santiago de Maria

PA0903154590 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] It has just been reported to us that all fighting stopped in Santiago de Maria at 0100 and that, as of approximately 0615, when this report is being filed, there has been no more firing in the area.

There had been heavy rifle fire and bombings up until 0100.

City Returning to Normal

PA0903214990 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1715 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] At 1215, we are still in the eastern city of Santiago de Maria, the scene of fierce fighting in recent hours. At this point, we can confirm that four soldiers, two national policemen, and one guerrilla from the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] have been killed. In addition, four soldiers, three National Guardsmen, and three policemen have been wounded. One civilian was also wounded when the guerrillas attacked the Oromontique coffee mill located southwest of Santiago de Maria.

The fighting has stopped in this city and people are gradually returning to their activities. At 1130, a strong explosion was heard in this city's southwestern area. Right now we can see heavy smoke. It was reported that the Army has managed to control a neighborhood located southwest of this city. As the guerrillas moved out, they sought cover in several civilian homes. An unidentified sergeant from the Jucuaran Battalion's Second Company explains the events of the past few hours, where the FMLN guerrillas and the Army have been engaged in heavy fighting. Air Force helicopters and airplanes joined the Army's counteroffensive to oust the guerrillas.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Can you tell us what happened?

[Sergeant] I was not near there because I was in [words indistinct]. I received the order to [words indistinct] at 0100 and remained until 0600 [words indistinct]

[Reporter] What sectors of the city did the guerrillas attack?

[Sergeant] All sectors of the city and the outskirts.

[Reporter] Were there any other rebel casualties besides those at the coffee mill?

[Sergeant] Some residents said that guerrillas had been killed on a playground as they were leaving the zone.

[Reporter] Were there military casualties?

[Sergeant] Some soldiers have been killed or wounded [words indistinct]

¡Reporter] How many casualties?

[Sergeant] Four have been killed and four have been wounded.

[Reporter] Is the situation in the city under control?

[Sergeant] Part of the city is now under control, there are still some guerrillas in the [name indistinct] neighborhood; they are inside people's homes.

[Reporter] Did special army units participate in ousting the guerrillas?

[Sergeant] Just the Jucuaran Battalion's 2d Company [word indistinct], police. [end recording]

That was a sergeant who participated in the fighting that took place early this morning. The situation in the city is returning to normal. The Air Force airplanes and helicopters have left the zone. The bombing has ended, and rifle fire can no longer be heard. The last explosion was hear at 1230 on the slopes of Oromontique Hill, on the outskirts of Santiago de Maria. We visited the Oromontique mill and saw the damage to the water tank and part of the wall. The machinery was not damaged by the rebels' attack. The corpse of a guerrilla was found inside the coffee mill. The National Guardsmen told us that several guerrillas had jumped over the wall and fought with the guards who protect the coffee mill.

On the highway near the mill, we saw bloodstains. The National Guardsmen told us that the guerrillas departed though this zone.

Army Reports 23 Killed in Recent Clashes

PA1103031590 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0040 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] San Salvador, 10 Mar (ACAN-EFE)—Military reports state that several clashes in the last few hours between the Army and the rebels have resulted in a total of 23 people killed and 41 wounded among soldiers, rebels, and civilians in Usulutan and San Miguel Departments in eastern El Salvador.

The Press Committee of the Armed Forces (Coprefa) has reported that 17 guerrillas and six soldiers were killed yesterday in clashes that took place in the towns of Ciudad Barrios and Santiago de Maria in the eastern part of the country. The Coprefa report added that 10 soldiers and officer Ronald Mendez, as well as 25 guerrillas and five civilians, were wounded in the same clashes.

According to the Army, a U.S.-made "UH-1H" helicopter was hit by gunfire as it was directing machine-gun fire at alleged guerrilla hideouts in Ciudad Barrios.

The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) attacked several towns in Usulutan, San Miguel, and La Union on 9 March at the start of a new military campaign.

Radio Venceremos, the official mouthpiece of the FMLN, said the Army suffered 32 casualties, including a sergeant who is a member of the elite battalion, but it did not report on casualties sustained by the guerrillas. The clandestine radio station said the rebels destroyed a military barracks in the town of Yayantique, 169 km east of San Salvador, La Union Department.

Military sources also pointed out that the rebels partially destroyed two coffee mills in the cities of San Miguel and Santiago de Maria. One of the mills was owned by Margarita Llach, the wife of Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani.

FMLN Reports 91 Army Casualties in 2 Days

PA1203041990 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 12 Mar 90

[Text] The following is the balance of two days of intense fighting in which the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] inflicted 91 casualties, including dead and wounded, on the Army. The casualties include one officer and eight noncommissioned officers.

For our part, we regret the heroic death of companero Martinez, who died fighting for peace, democracy, and social justice. In these two days of fighting, we also damaged one helicopter and conducted intense sabotage actions throughout the national territory which affected the capital and several departments. We blew up 34 electricity towers and posts. In addition, we damaged three coffee-processing plants, which inflicted losses worth millions of colones on the war economy and, above all, on the oligarchic families who own these plants.

Most important in these two days of fighting were our actions in the capital's north, where we sabotaged electrical energy installations and the infrastructure for the war economy. In this action, we inflicted 10 casualties on the Belloso and Paratroopers Battalions and the 1st Military Brigade and damaged the war economy. As the result of these clashes, the Army sustained 32 casualties in Ciudad Barrios. In Santiago de Maria, the Army sustained 25 casualties and one helicopter was damaged. (?Lolotique) was raided and occupied. As we said earlier, three coffee-processing plants, owned by the Canesa, Marquesado, and Oromontique families, were sabotaged. An ambush was sprung between Sensuntepeque and Ilobasco. There were also other actions in Ilobasco and Cacaopera.

Nicaragua

Ortega Speaks on Transfer of Power, Amnesty

PA1003214590 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2024 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Speech by President Daniel Ortega at the Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport in Managua—live]

[Text] Nicaraguan brothers, in a few minutes I will be leaving for Chile to attend the swearing-in ceremony of the new Chilean Government headed by Mr. Patricio Aylwin. I will later travel to Brazil to participate in the swearing-in ceremony of the new Brazilian President Fernando Collor de Melo.

I will then return to Nicaragua so the entire people, all those who voted for the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], all those who voted for Mrs. Violeta Chamorro, and all those who voted for other political parties that participated in the elections can work together with maturity and with determination to guarantee the maximum amount of stability for our country.

Stability is not only desirable for a party, it is desirable for the entire nation. We, the Sandinists, and I, as president of Nicaragua throughout all these years, have been fighting for stability in Nicaragua. We have had the support of all the Nicaraguan people, regardless of their political or ideological viewpoints. We have worked to make progress in our peace and economic plans.

Some Nicaraguans have shown a totally negative attitude toward our efforts made for peace and for the improvement of the economy throughout these years, but today Nicaraguans cannot justify this extremist behavior, which hurts our national interests. They are acting just like those who never loved the fatherland,

those who never had nationalist feelings, and those who always had a destructive attitude toward the different efforts made to achieve peace and improve the economy. These people did not oppose the embargo and the blockade.

I will continue to do my job until 25 April, when my government will conclude its duties. Therefore, I would first like to call on all the Nicaraguan people to act with responsibility in this historic moment so the revolution is strengthened. Social and political stability is needed to achieve democracy and peace for Nicaragua, and therefore if we achieve those two things it would be a victory for the revolution and the entire people of Nicaragua.

I would like to express my full support for the steps taken by the future government that will come to power on 25 April, which will be headed by Mrs. Chamorro. She is working to seek international economic support. I know that the international conditions to achieve massive support for Nicaragua are very complex and difficult. We have talked about this on many occasions, but I believe there is a responsibility, especially by the U.S. Government, to provide the Nicaraguan people with all the financial and economic support this people demand in view of the damage the United States has caused to the Nicaraguan economy. We must take into account that any aid the U.S. may give us at this time is minimal compared to the more than $16 billion in losses directly and indirectly caused by the war promoted by U.S. policy against the Nicaraguan economy and society.

We are asking the U.S. Government to compensate the Nicaraguan people with this money. We are doing this through the International Court of Justice at The Hague. Therefore, I want to give my full support to the steps taken in the international field to seek economic support for Nicaragua so our economy does not collapse and so we can achieve a minimum amount of stability in the economic, social, and political fields.

I also want to say that I will increase my own efforts here in Nicaragua—and also now that I am going to Chile and Brazil, where I will speak to political leaders, heads of state, and heads of government of various countries in the world—to demand international support for Nicaragua in the economic and social fields, the financial and economic support the Nicaraguan people need, so the great accomplishment of the revolution, which reached its apex on the occasion of the 25 February elections, will not be thwarted or hindered by an economic disaster. On the contrary, we hope that by joining efforts all Nicaraguans may truly attain a minimum amount of economic, social, and political stability.

Second, on behalf of the Nicaraguan people, I want to tell the U.S. Government that it is already time to lift the economic embargo it has imposed on Nicaragua. Each day that Nicaragua must endure the economic embargo is a day costing more sacrifices and more pain to the Nicaraguan people with regard to their economic and social situation. The United States has the great and immediate responsibility of lifting the economic embargo and any kind of blockade at international and multilateral organizations so Nicaragua may have access to international financing and loans.

Third, I want to refer to a point that must be urgently solved so we reach 25 April under minimum security conditions for all Nicaraguans and for the entire country. This deals with the demobilization and disarming of the Somozist counterrevolutionary guard forces, which number several thousand, have not been demobilized, are still at their bases in Honduran territory, and are infiltrating Honduran territory with the complicity of the Honduran and U.S. Governments. This is a double standard by the U.S. Government which the Nicaraguan people cannot accept and which the international community must not tolerate. While the U.S. Government says the contras must be demobilized, it secretly tells the contras not to demobilize and instead to infiltrate Nicaragua and continue committing crimes and threatening the security of all Nicaraguans.

Therefore, as president of the Nicaraguan people, and since Nicaragua has fulfilled all its commitments as established by the Central American presidents in the Esquipulas peace agreement, I hereby demand that the U.S. Government immediately cease all support to the counterrevolution and immediately transfer the funds approved by the U.S. Congress—which the U.S. Government's executive branch has in its hands for the counterrevolution, allegedly for humanitarian aid—to the United Nations and the OAS to repatriate those who want to return to Nicaragua or relocate those who want to go to third countries. However, the demobilization and disarming of the counterrevolution must take place immediately so this process—aimed at the strengthening of democracy, total peace, and attainment of a minimum stability in the social and economic fields—will not be thwarted by the intransigence of the U.S. Government's policy because the U.S. Government has organized, financed, and continues to direct those mercenary forces which have thousands of people in Nicaraguan territory and at the camps in Honduran territory.

I also want to refer to the hasty and immature accusations being made against the Nicaraguan Government. The accusations are linked to laws being discussed at the National Assembly, and such declarations and accusations do not at all help to create the minimum climate of stability all Nicaraguans need, so the effort we all made on 25 February will not be affected, thwarted, or disturbed.

I also want to say that, by my initiative, the National Assembly is debating a law that we entitled the National Amnesty and Reconciliation Law. I have not supported other laws that have made their way to the Assembly and which have been the focus of controversial debate and even had some questionable legal aspects. However, I do support this General National Amnesty and Reconciliation Law, which reads as follows:

Whereas: 1. The Government of the Republic of Nicaragua has promoted peace, democracy, and the socioeconomic development of Central American peoples by signing and complying with all the accords adopted by the Central American presidents and the accord signed in Esquipulas in August 1987 until this moment;

2. To comply with these accords the Government of Nicaragua made a number of commitments with all political forces of the country in the month of August 1989, which have been faithfully complied with;

3. Broad sectors of our society have pointed out the need to bring about an authentic national reconciliation leading to domestic peace and tranquility and the country's reconstruction;

4. The unity of the Nicaraguan family requires the pardon and forgetting of those events that brought about anguish and uneasiness to the nation;

5. And, in compliance with accords signed by the Central American presidents and our accords with Nicaraguan political forces to bring about national reconciliation, it is reasonable to decree a broad and unconditional amnesty law for all Nicaraguans and without any distinctions; therefore,

Being of sound mind and body, it decrees the following General National Amnesty and Reconciliation Law:

Article 1. Broad and unconditional amnesty is granted to:

a. Nicaraguans—regardless of whether they reside in the country—who committed crimes against public order and the state's domestic and international security, as well as common crimes related to them.

b. Nicaraguans, military and civilian, who committed crimes during the pursuance and investigation of the crimes mentioned in the previous sub-subparagraph.

c. Officials and public employees who presumably committed crimes specified in Book Two, Title Eight of the Penal Code and its amendments, especially Law No. 11 published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE No. 217 of 12 December 1985, who have not been prosecuted. The pardon includes those who had public and administrative responsibilities.

Article 2. The amnesty mentioned in the previous article covers the period from 19 July 1979 to the date when this law is put into effect.

This law, which is still under discussion, will obviously be in effect as soon as it is approved by the Assembly. I will ratify it and then send it for publication in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

I wish to reaffirm before the Nicaraguan people, the people of the world, and the international community my decision as president of the Nicaraguans to concentrate all my efforts on ensuring that on 25 April we will have a normal and peaceful transition to strengthen the democratic process we achieved with the revolution for the first time in the history of Nicaragua.

I also urge the international community, along with the Nicaraguan people and all of Nicaragua's political, social, and religious forces, to demand the immediate demobilization and disarmament of the counterrevolution so as to eliminate this threat looming over all Nicaraguans and to allow us to head more quickly toward achieving peace, stability, and a strengthened democracy.

I demand immediate action on the part of the U.S. to show its good intentions to demobilize and disarm the counterrevolution and ensure that on 25 April there will not be a single contra in Nicaragua and Honduras threatening the Nicaraguan people's security. I demand that the contras be disarmed and demobilized by then.

I call on the international community and all political and social forces of Nicaragua to demand that the U.S. Government immediately lift the economic embargo and blockade in multilateral organizations to give Nicaragua access to international sources of credit.

I also insist that all we Nicaraguans work with a constructive spirit to ensure that the very tense situation we are experiencing will be overcome, and that we all contribute to the country's stability.

I would also like to express my decision not only to support the efforts made by representatives of the new Nicaraguan Government to improve the economic and financial situation of the country, but to play an active part in this international economic effort now and in the future so the Nicaraguan people continue to receive aid. We want them to receive more aid than they are currently receiving. I will never assume—and I hope this will be the behavior of all Nicaraguans—attitudes that prevailed in the past, in which there were people who never thought about the fatherland and the people, and who were opposed to our efforts to seek foreign financing and resources for the country.

The time has come to defend our national interests; the time has come to defend the interests of the fatherland; the time has come to guarantee the security of all Nicaraguans; the time has come to defend the Constitution of the country; and the time has come to defend the fundamental achievements of the revolution stipulated in the Constitution. The Army and the Interior Ministry have been a bastion of defense for the country. They were able to prevent the contras from destroying the country, and they were able to guarantee that the elections were held under conditions of normalcy. Therefore, they are instruments serving the nation. We must strengthen and acknowledge the work done by these institutions that have provided security and guarantees to all Nicaraguans, regardless of their political and ideological positions.

I want to express once again my full support for this Amnesty and Reconciliation Law, which is already being discussed in the National Assembly and which we hope will be approved before 25 April.

As for this trip I will be making to Chile and Brazil, I can tell you that I will be arriving in Venezuela this evening. There I will meet with President Carlos Andres Perez and Spanish President Felipe Gonzalez, who is also visiting Venezuela. I will meet with them tonight. This is a positive step for our people and this democratic process which we have been promoting since 19 July 1979. Tomorrow we will all travel to Chile, along with other Central American presidents who are in Venezuela.

My greetings to all the people of Nicaragua. Let us keep working with determination and confidence, with good spirits and joy, and with the fighting spirit and maturity we have always had so everything will be better in Nicaragua.

See you soon, Nicaraguan brothers. In a few days we will be back to work for peace, democracy, and the life and security of all the Nicaraguan people.

Assembly Approves Amnesty, Reconciliation Law

PA1103011790 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2334 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Managua, 10 Mar (ACAN-EFE)—The Nicaraguan National Assembly approved the "General and Unconditional Law of Amnesty and Reconciliation" today by an absolute majority. The law will go into effect soon.

The amnesty law will benefit Nicaraguans—whether or not they live in the country—who committed crimes against public order and the domestic and foreign security of the state, as well as those who committed related common crimes, between 19 July 1979 and the date when this law comes into effect.

Sandinist and conservative deputies consulted by ACAN-EFE could not agree on the number of prisoners who will be released under this law.

Sixto Ulloa, from the Sandinist faction, estimated that about 1,000 "contra" prisoners and former Sandinist military personnel will be released.

National Assembly Secretary Rafael Solis reported that about 60 former associates of the Sandinist People's Army, as well as military members "who provided services" to the CIA and received jail sentences because of their "betrayal of the fatherland," will benefit from the new law.

Conservative Deputy Cesar Augusto Castillo told ACAN-EFE that 18 former Sandinist military members—most of them women—who were charged with providing information to the CIA will also be released. Former Lieutenant Reynaldo Tadeo Aguado heads this group of former Sandinist military personnel "infiltrated" by the CIA into the Interior Ministry structures.

Castillo criticized this law on various occasions, arguing that "all wrongdoings against state property will be cleaned up with this initiative" that was submitted by President Daniel Ortega at the beginning of this week. The conservative representative added that this law will "serve as a settlement to all Sandinist chiefs of sections at government institutions and state enterprises who have committed crimes while performing their work."

Shortly before leaving for Chile and Brazil, with a stopover in Caracas, President Ortega reported in a radio and television address to the nation that the current opposition "is making accusations against the government in a hasty and immature manner because this law was proposed."

The Sandinist president warned that "this does not help attain the climate of stability all Nicaraguans need so efforts will not be affected, thwarted, or disturbed."

Ortega read the text of the law shortly before the Assembly approved it, and added that he made this decision "so on 25 April we will experience a normal and peaceful transition that will strengthen the democratic process we accomplished with the revolution."

Arce Views Effort To Persuade U.S. on Contras

PA1103045190 Paris AFP in Spanish 0250 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] Mexico City, 10 Mar (AFP)—Commander Bayardo Arce, vice coordinator of the Executive Commission of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN), said in Mexico City today that Nicaragua's Sandinist Government has embarked on a diplomatic effort to persuade the United States that it must "fulfill its promise to demobilize the contras after the Nicaraguan elections."

Arce said that his visit to Mexico "is in fact part of a mission to establish a diplomatic effort to prompt the United States, which created, organized, and financed such groups, to do its part in the peace process."

The military leader said that Vice President Sergio Ramirez traveled to Venezuela last week as part of this diplomatic effort, and "on 9 March Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez and Spanish President Felipe Gonzalez formally demanded that the United States comply with its commitment to demobilize the counterrevolutionary forces" in Nicaragua.

Arce said that "it seems that President George Bush has been able to keep his cool," but "certain hotheads" such as Vice President Dan Quayle and the U.S. secretary of defense "have made truly destabilizing statements suggesting that the White House does not plan to demobilize the Nicaraguan counterrevolution."

With their refusal to demobilize the counterrevolution, "the hotheads want to create instability, and based on that, want to come to Nicaragua later with their old story of saving democracy with a military intervention. We would certainly have a civil war should that happen," Arce said.

The Nicaraguan commander said that besides targeting the United States, the Sandinist diplomatic offensive is particularly aimed at Honduras, "which houses between 7,000 and 8,000 armed contras within its territory."

Arce, who met with Mexican President Carlos Salinas this afternoon, said that he encountered "an understanding and agreeable attitude, as well as Mexico's promise to contribute to this effort."

Arce added that the Nicaraguans currently live in fear that a "revengeful era" will be unleashed by the more than 3,000 Somozist guardsmen and more than 4,000 counterrevolutionaries, and thus, "we forsee an avalanche of people withdrawing their savings and requesting visas to leave the country."

"This is why we are trying to unite efforts to disarm this Frankenstein's monster that the United States created in our country," Arce said.

As for the Nicaraguan counterrevolution's demands of conditioning their weapons surrender to a dismantling of the defense organisms and power structures, Arce said that "Humberto Ortega will remain as Army commander, because he is the highest-ranking officer, while Daniel Ortega, as a civilian, will move on to assume the leadership of the Nicaraguan opposition."

Arce said that "the Armed Forces of Nicaragua are institutions that were created within the framework of the Constitution and have their own bylaws and a framework of action that has already been defined by the deputies."

As for the future of the FSLN, which must surrender power to Violeta Chamorro on 25 April, the Nicaraguan military man said that "we will strengthen democracy from the opposition," and warned that they will fight any privatization plans "because we believe that a mixed economy is the only valid solution" for Nicaragua at this juncture.

Arce Discusses FSLN Initiatives, Cuban Aid

PA1003234190 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 10 Mar 90 pp 1, 5

[Text] Commander Bayardo Arce Castano, vice coordinator of the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] Executive Commission, announced last night that beginning today, "the FSLN will open its doors to all Nicaraguans who wish to join the ranks of the vanguard to transform us into the authentic opposition party of the most and the best."

The Sandinist leader explained that the FSLN National Directorate made this decision, taking into account the enormous energy emanating from those Nicaraguans who, despite the economic situation, voted for the FSLN, "and even from those who mistakenly voted for UNO [National Opposition Union] and are expecting a skillful leadership from us in defense of their interests."

During a meeting with more than 3,000 FSLN activists and militants last night at the Rigoberto Lopez Perez Institute, Commander Arce also reported that by decision of the National Directorate he personally traveled to the fraternal Republic of Cuba yesterday "to ask Fidel to maintain—to the extent of his possibilities—the aid that he has been giving Nicaragua."

The FSLN National Directorate member added: "We hope that, although Mrs. Chamorro does not like Cubans, she will not deprive the people of hundreds of medical visits, hundreds of surgical operations, and the houses that are being built for the Nicaraguans."

With prolonged and heavy applause, the thousands of FSLN activists and militants who attended the meeting unanimously approved the FSLN's initiatives. Commander Arce urged them to act prudently and to avoid being provoked by UNO instigators.

The vice coordinator of the FSLN Executive Commission added: "It is in the hands of Mrs. Chamorro whether or not all the Cuban aid will be taken away from the people, because, for our part, we are working for peace."

In the face of the combativeness shown by the participants, whose revolutionary fervor was reflected through ovations and slogans about peace, the Sandinist leader proposed to the people three immediate tasks that will be implemented before 25 April: "Demand the contras' demobilization, defend the people's property, and organize the largest and strongest Nicaraguan party."

Commander Arce said that the Sandinist Rank and File Committees and the Electoral Action Committees, which exist in all areas and regions of Nicaragua, will play an important role in the organization of a massive registration process of people into FSLN ranks.

"We will open our registration books in all areas throughout the national territory to allow Nicaraguans to fill out applications and receive an identity card making them defenders of the revolution," the leader said. He added: "With this organization we will achieve our main objectives of peace, security, and democracy for all."

In this regard, the FSLN National Directorate member urged the vanguard's activists and militants to even involve UNO in these great tasks "to give them—if they truly want peace—the opportunity to work along with us to achieve the demobilization of the contras."

Talks Held in 'Constructive, Friendly Climate'

PA0903225990 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 8 Mar 90 p 1

[Communique issued by the Presidency's Press and Information Directorate in Managua on 7 March]

[Text] The Nicaraguan Presidency's Press and Information Directorate hereby reports that the transition teams, designated by President Daniel Ortega Saavedra and President-elect Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, held their first working session at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center on 7 March 1990.

The heads of each team—Defense Minister General Humberto Ortega Saavedra and Engineer Antonio Lacayo—were present at this first meeting and were accompanied by the members of each team. The outgoing government's team members were: Commander of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock Roman and General Joaquin Cuadra Lacayo. The representatives of the incoming government were: Engineer Carlos Hurtado and Luis Sanchez Sancho.

At this first working meeting, preliminary aspects related to the most important matters required for an orderly and peaceful change of government were discussed in a constructive and friendly climate. The transfer of government must be achieved so Nicaraguans will be guaranteed stability and the continuity of the democratic process, required for the advancement toward lasting peace and national reconciliation and reconstruction.

With the same patriotic and democratic spirit, the transition teams will continue to meet to resolve several aspects of the transition phase. Managua, 7 March 1990, Year of Peace and Reconstruction
Nicaraguan Presidency's Press and Information Directorate

UNO Says FSLN 'Sacking' State Property

PA1103040590 Paris AFP in Spanish 2123 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] Managua, 9 Mar (AFP)—The National Opposition Union (UNO) charged today that the Sandinist Government is "sacking" the state coffers and property to leave an "empty treasury vault" to President-elect Violeta de Chamorro.

The UNO Political Council made its charges at a news conference, saying that after its 25 February electoral defeat the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] leaders have taken to "passing state machinery, homes, and property of all sorts to private hands."

UNO leader and socialist Guillermo Taboada said that in several parts of the country cattle were slaughtered to export beef.

Roberto Urroz, also a member of the UNO Political Council, admitted that the charges are in the process of being investigated and documented by lawyers of the opposition alliance. He promised reporters he would submit a list "in a couple of days."

Taboada anticipated that the reports include the "disappearance of many trucks" on the part of the Automobile Distributors Firm (Edina).

Also, UNO leaders rejected a draft bill presented on 8 March by the Sandinist Government that proposed "the dropping of penal action" for all those crimes incurred by officials of the current government between 19 July 1979 and 31 March 1990.

Eduardo Rivas, attorney and opposition leader, said that it is preposterous that the Sandinists seek, with this law, "to prevent the punishment of common crimes" such as those denounced by UNO, and even those that may be committed up until 31 March.

After publicly denouncing the "vandalous actions" of the Sandinist Government, the UNO Political Council formally warned that the new government of Violeta Chamorro "will carefully review all transfers" of homes, vehicles, and other state property to private hands as of 1 January 1990 to ensure "their legality."

The UNO leaders justified the fact that the Nicaraguan contras do not want to lay down their weapons, "because so far the FSLN has refused to speak clearly about the surrender of power." In this regard, UNO cited "the massive and indiscriminate turnover of weapons to private hands" being carried out by the Sandinists throughout the country, according to the alliance.

"The contras do not want to lay down their weapons, because they are seeing contrary signs. They see the Sandinists delivering weapons to the people and sacking the state," Urroz charged.

The opposition alliance "wants the contras to disarm and to demobilize immediately, but unfortunately that is not in our hands," Taboada stated. The leader invited the FSLN to give more assurances about the transition of power so the rebels will change their attitude.

Obando y Bravo Proposes Tripartite Commission

PA1103215790 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1836 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] Managua, 11 Mar (ACAN-EFE)—Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo proposed today that a dialogue be held between officials representing the Sandinist authorities, the future Violeta Chamorro administration, and the "contras" to establish a schedule for the demobilization of the rebels stationed in Honduras.

Both President Daniel Ortega and President-elect Violeta Chamorro agree that the "contras" must be demobilized so a peaceful transfer of power can take place on 25 April.

At the end of his 11 March homily at a church in southwestern Managua, Obando y Bravo stated he favored the formation of a tripartite commission to discuss the dismantling of the rebels.

The Managua archbishop recently sent two emissaries to Honduras to talk to "contra" leaders about the demobilization that had been agreed on by the five Central American presidents in Tela (Honduras) in August 1989.

At that meeting, the area presidents created an international support and verification commission, which was later formed by the UN and OAS secretary generals, to carry out the demobilization program for the 12,000 "contras."

Supreme Soviet Congratulates Chamorro

PA1203040590 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 3 Mar 90 p 1

[Text] A letter from the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union sent to President-elect Violeta de Chamorro begins: "Accept our sincere congratulations for your victory in the presidential elections in the Republic of Nicaragua."

Soviet Ambassador to Nicaragua Valeriy Nikolayenko personally delivered the letter to Chamorro at her home on 2 March.

The letter, dated 1 March, ends: "We express our hope that the friendly relations that were formed between the Soviet Union and Nicaragua and that are based on the principles of equality and noninterference in internal affairs will continue to develop within the framework of mutual cooperation for the benefit of the peoples of our countries and in the interests of strengthening universal peace and security, democratization, and humanization of international relations."

GDR Envoy Says Cooperation Agreements Stand

PA1203044790 Managua LA CRONICA in Spanish 1-7 Mar 90 p 16

[Interview with Dr. Matthias Dietrich, GDR ambassador to Nicaragua, by unidentified LA CRONICA reporter in Managua—date not given]

[Text] [LA CRONICA] Regarding the changes in Eastern Europe, Nicaraguan Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge said in an interview published in our weekly that the countries which support Sandinism the most, specifically the GDR, have changed their policy. Are agreements between the GDR and Nicaragua no longer valid?

[Dietrich] I will speak in the name of the current GDR Government, not in that of the future government. Mr. Modrow's government, which was formed by a broad coalition, has expressed its willingness to comply with the accords already signed.

It is very clear that the GDR, despite all of its changes, is still willing to make good its word and support for Nicaragua. Nevertheless, it is necessary to admit that there are a number of political and economic problems in the GDR. There is a sort of economic crisis that somehow influences this process.

As you know, as a result of the work of the Joint Commission, Nicaragua and the GDR signed a document last year for this year's cooperation, and this cooperation has not been suspended. I have no additional information on this subject.

I have heard rumors and read reports in LA PRENSA, and even in THE MIAMI HERALD, saying that we will stop work at the Karl Marx hospital. I do not think we will, because there is a consensus in the GDR concerning solidarity with Nicaragua despite all of the problems encountered. [Words indistinct] has not expressed opposition to solidarity and cooperation with other countries.

The Interior Ministry is a different story, however. In the GDR cooperation protocols are handled separately by the various ministries. There was a Ministry of State Security, which was eliminated because of the people's demand. Therefore, the agreements signed between this ministry and the Nicaraguan Ministry of the Interior cannot be fulfilled. If you do not have a ministry, there will be nobody to fulfill the agreement. But this is a special case. We will continue our cooperation in every other case. In addition, there are standing cooperation agreements between the GDR and Nicaraguan Interior Ministries.

We must also take into consideration something very real. Elections will be held in the GDR on 18 March. Even if there will be a new government, agreements will continue to be complied with. It is necessary to discuss how things evolve in the ministries, but this will be debated in due time.

[LA CRONICA] What do you think about [words indistinct]? Do you think it is unavoidable?

[Dietrich] Yes.

[LA CRONICA] How do you think it will come out?

[Dietrich] I would like it to take place through a rapprochement between the two sides, but we have almost no time now. Things are moving at an incredible speed.

[LA CRONICA] Which party do you think will win the 18 March elections in the GDR?

[Dietrich] I do not have the results of the latest polls conducted in the GDR, but there are strong rumors that the Social Democrats appear to be strong. There are other alliances, too. Anyway, we must wait.

[LA CRONICA] How important are the 18 March elections for the GDR?

[Dietrich] From a historic viewpoint, these elections are very important, not only for the GDR, but for all of Germany as well.

* National Assembly Election Results

90EM0108A Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 28 Feb 90 p 3

[Text]

UNO Election Results

According to the electoral results announced by the Supreme Electoral Council (CSE), the National Opposition Union [UNO] had won, as of 3:00 pm on Monday 26 February, 52 seats in the National Assembly of Nicaragua, the country's supreme legislative organ, as compared to 37 won by the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], and one seat won by the Social Christian Party [PSC].

According to this preliminary data, UNO would have the following honest men and women serving as deputies in the various regions of the country.

Region I

(Esteli-Nueva Segovia-Madriz)

Regular Member	Alternate
Dr. Victor Manuel Talavera Huete	Don Pedro J. Gallardo Saavedra
Prof Magdalena Ubeda de Rodriguez	Dr. Uriel Tercero Guevara
Luis Sanchez Sancho	Pedro Rafael Maldonado Lovo
Don Jose Caceres Vasquez	Don Santiago Hudiel Espinoza
Luis Angel Moreno Ponce	Mrs Angeles Castellon Casco

Region II

(Leon-Chinandega)

Regular Member	Alternate
Dr. Duilio Baltodano Mayorga	Prof Ma. Adilia Sirias Cabrera de Arteaga
Dr. Cairo Manuel Lopez Sanchez	Dr. Jose Gutierrez Pantoja
Alfredo Zacarias Hernandez	Alejandro Alonso Jiron
Adan Morales Hernandez	Dr. Elio Artola Navarrete
Dr. Adolfo Garcia Esquivel	Dr. Rodrigo Hernandez Vallecillo
Dr. Francisco Jose Duarte Tania	Gustavo Mendoza Hernandez
Nicasio Zeledon Zeledon	Francisco Reyes Mendez
Anibal Martinez Nunez	Elmer Linarte Cuevas

Region III

(Managua)

Regular Member	Alternate
Alfredo Cesar Aguirre	Dr. Manuel Antonio Matus Sequeira
Eli Altamirano Perez	Allan A. Zambrana Salmeron
Jaime Jose Bonilla Lopez	Joaquin Absalon Pastora Zuniga
Dr. Miriam Arguello Morales	Dr. Jose Maria Morales Urbina
Luis Humberto Guzman Areas	Gabriel Moya Hernandez
Adan Fletes Valle	Don Luis Armando Zambrana Fonseca
Roberto Jose Urroz Castillo	Prof Nicolas A. Morales Amador
Dr. Alejandro Perez Arevalo	Mrs Meyboll Lopez Gutierrez
Dr. Edmundo Castillo Ramirez	Larry Lee Schoures Rivera
Dr. Rodolfo Mejia Ubilla	Dr. Orlando Buitrago Mendez
Alejandro Cesar Fernandez	Nilo Manuel Salazar Aguilar
Adolfo Jose Jarquin Ortel	Armodio A. Mendieta Sanchez
Guillermo Chavarria Loredo	Benjamin Perez Fonseca
Dr. Orontes Perez Arevalo	Guillermo Chavarria

Region IV

(Granada-Carazo-Masaya-Rivas)

Regular Member	Alternate
Dr. Agapito Fernandez Garcia	Nicolas Bolanos Gayer
Francisco Anzoategui Lacayo	Dr. Manuel S. Jarquin Sequeira
Dr. Ivan S. Madriz Aguilar	Dr. Ricardo Vega Garcia
Dr. Hernaldo Zuniga Montenegro	Alvaro Chamorro Mora
Roberto A. Moreno	Emilio Marquez Acuna
Mrs Julia de la Cruz Mena Rivera	Noel Sanchez Cuadra
Nicolas Brenes Rojas	Dr. Raul Estrada Espinoza
Saturnino de los Santos Tijerino Jimenez	Perfecto R. Gutierrez Gutierrez
Don Jaime Garcia Lopez	Mrs Esperanza Robleto Wheelock

Region V

(Chontales-Boaco)

Regular Member	Alternate
Dr. Gustavo E. Tablada Zelaya	Juan Jose Gaitan Ramirez
Mrs Luisa del Carmen Larios Mora	Jose Antonio Jarquin Rodriguez
Dr. Humberto Castilla Matamoros	Chester A. Guevara Urbina
Dr. Fernando Zelaya Rojas	Dr. Denis Pena Gutierrez
Mrs Fidelina Rojas de Cerda	Dr. Oscar Guerrero Mora
Dr. Delvis Montiel Diaz	Mrs Rosa Adilia Buitrago Solano
Nardo Rafael Sequiera Baez	Horacio Rojas Lanzas

Region VI	
(Matagalpa-Jinotega)	
Regular Member	Alternate
Dr. Eduardo Paladino Cabrera	Maximiliano Molina Palacios
Azucena Ferrey Echaverry	Don Miguel Angel Manzanares Masis
Don Jaime Cuadra Somarriba	Dr. Yudat William Frech Frech
Rafael Treminio Treminio	Edmundo Montenegro Miranda
Daniel Blandon Gadea	Juan Francisco Castillo Morales
Hernaldo Gonzalez Membreno	Jaime Baldizon Richardson
Jose Enrique Siles Castro	Orlando Rodriguez Obregon

Region VIII	
(Zelaya Central)	
Regular Member	Alternate
Alvim Leonard Guthrie Rivers	Maxwell Atily

Late Count Questioned

"Why, with modern technology in use for the count, was the Supreme Electoral Council unable to provide the final results of the tally of the votes cast by the people of Nicaragua on 25 February at the polls?" This was the worried question asked by Dr. Humberto Dona, the national election overseer for UNO.

Dr. Dona questioned the delay with which the Supreme Electoral Council has been making the electoral results available. "I have demanded as my right, as national election overseer for the UNO, to be provided with all of the documentation we need. They have given me what they chose bit by bit, in violation of the Electoral Law. I remember that Dr. Mariano Fiallos Oyanguren himself said when the election began that 'late results will not be good results.' and I recall this now," this official said.

The danger involved in tardiness lies in the possibility that "although we have won the election on the presidential level," which has been admitted publicly by Daniel Ortega himself and Dr. Mariano Fiallos Oyanguren, we could learn of an upset in the results for the National Assembly, losing seats which in fact we have won as a result of deceitful maneuvers in the recounting of votes," the national election overseer of UNO warned.

In an earlier report delivered to Dr. Dona at 10:45 am on Monday 26 February, the Supreme Electoral Council informed him that the results had been received from 3,482 Vote Reception Councils for the president and vice president, while the same report stated that 3,415 reports had been received from Vote Reception Councils for the legislative elections.

"What is the reason for the disparity of 67 Vote Reception Councils in the same report? The number should coincide, since the boards of directors of the Vote Reception Councils sent the results of the presidential elections, the legislative elections, and also the municipal council elections in the same ballot-count document," Dr. Dona stated, expressing surprise.

The UNO election overseer recalled that the total number of registered voters was 1,752,058, and that the Supreme Electoral Council announced at 12:41 pm on Monday, 26 February, that 1,210,255 votes in the presidential election had been counted. However, that body did not provide the UNO with the documents pertaining to the votes cast for National Assembly deputies. Dr. Dona found this suspicious, and he warned the national and foreign public about this matter.

"The Sandinist Front may be engaging in maneuvers for the purpose of preventing UNO from winning the 60 percent it needs in order to be able to introduce amendments to the Political Constitution of Nicaragua," Dona said. As will be remembered, UNO proposed 17 amendments to the Constitution even before it was established as an electoral alliance, while it was still a group of 14 political parties opposing the Sandinist government.

Rosa Marina Zelaya, the executive secretary of the Supreme Electoral Council, described the doubts voiced by the UNO election overseer, Dr. Humberto Dona, as "without foundation."

Rosa Marina told LA PRENSA that in fact, as of 4:00 pm yesterday, reports from 3,575 Councils on the presidential election were available, and of these, 3,495 had been processed where the deputies were concerned.

Zelaya explained that there was no evil intent, and that the difference of 80 boards of directors was due precisely to the fact that UNO had asked the Supreme Electoral Council to process the ballots cast for the presidential and vice presidential candidates as rapidly as possible. This CSE official also explained that the technology being used is not advanced enough to process both sets of ballots with equal speed.

Zelaya also explained that in view of the Council's desire to provide a rapid response concerning the president, vice president, and National Assembly deputies, that body has not yet read all the municipal council ballots.

Rosa Marina issued an appeal, through LA PRENSA, for confidence in the Supreme Electoral Council, which body, she said, will carry out the commitment it has made to Nicaragua.

As of the present, UNO has elected 52 deputies. The daily government publications have begun to report that UNO will not be able to amend the Constitution, because it will not be able to achieve the 60 percent required.

Dr. Rafael Solis, secretary of the National Assembly and a member of the Sandinist assembly, stated to one of these publications that "any new government must take the Sandinist Front into account, since the reality is that there is a Political Constitution in effect, which UNO will not be able to amend, because to do this it would need 60 percent of the seats in the legislature, which it has not won."

UNO Dominates Assembly

(ACAN-EFE)—The opposition, which won the presidential election in Nicaragua last Sunday, also achieved an absolute majority in the legislature, and in a majority of the municipal councils.

With the count known for 81.4 percent of the 4,394 electoral colleges which functioned on 25 February, the UNO won a total of 52 seats in the Nicaraguan National Assembly.

In Managua, the Nicaraguan capital, alone, UNO won 14 seats, while the FSLN won 11.

The FSLN, which is in power but lost in the elections last Sunday, has, according to these same reports, 38 of the 90 legislative seats.

According to these results, the second surprise in the elections, apart from the overwhelming UNO victory, was the fact that the Revolutionary Unity Movement (MUR) challenged the Nicaraguan Social Christian Party for third place among the country's political forces.

MUR, headed by Moises Hassan, a former Sandinist combatant and former mayor of Managua, won 11,937 votes in the election for the president and vice president, according to the latest count. This represents 1 percent of the votes.

The Revolutionary Workers Party (PRT) and the Nicaraguan Social Christian Party won about 7,000 votes, while the remaining parties won fewer than 6,000.

If the current trend continues, since the results of half a million votes are still unknown, both MUR and the PSC could win one seat each.

In view of the election results, the distance separating UNO, the Sandinist Front, and the other parties in terms of the votes won in the electoral contest is very great.

In the elections on Sunday, which foreign observers described as normal, nine parties participated, including the Sandinist Front and the alliance of 14 parties called UNO, which nominated Violeta Chamorro as its presidential candidate.

The Democratic Conservative Party (PCD), which became the leading political force opposing the Sandinists in the 4 November 1984 elections, does not seem, following the elections last Sunday, to be likely to win even one seat in the Nicaraguan legislature.

Future FSLN Legislators

Region I	
(Esteli-Nueva Segovia-Madriz)	
Regular Member	Alternate
Francisco Rivera	Heriberto Rodriguez
Carlos Manuel Morales	Martha Munguia
Orlando Pineda	Roberto Laguna
Ramon Gamez	Rosario Antunez

Region II	
(Leon-Chinandega)	
Regular Member	Alternate
Omar Cabezas	Salvador Ramirez
Davida Blanco	Victorino Espinales
Alonso Porras	Blas Espinales
Gladys Baez	Thelma Uriarte
Raul Venerio	Jose Manuel Espinoza
Maria Teresa Delgado	Jose Manuel Tellez
Marcia Quezada	Santos Roque

Region III	
(Managua)	
Regular Member	Alternate
Carlos Nunez Tellez	Carlos Gallo
Dora Maria Tellez	Rafael Salis Cerda
Leticia Herrera Sanchez	Orlando Jose Blandon
Natan Sevilla	Noel Cerda
Damaso Vargas	Jose Luis Villavicencio
Domingo Sanchez	Ronald Zamora
Reynaldo A. Tefel	Luis Rocha
Edmundo Jarquin	Yadira Centeno
Danilo Aguirre	Leonidas Duarte
Maria Ramirez	Gustavo Vega

Region IV	
(Granada-Carazo-Masaya-Rivas)	
Regular Member	Alternate
William Ramirez	Ronald Martinez
Herty Lewites	Fernando Jerez
Julio Marenco	Bertha Rosa Flores
Fernando Silva	Luis Marenco
Jose Leon Talavera	Wilfredo Lopez

Region V	
(Chontales-Boaco)	
Regular Member	Alternate
Daniel Nunez	Juan Aragon
Luis Enrique Figueroa	Martha Garcia
Serafin Garcia	Saturnino Mendoza

Region VI	
(Matagalpa-Jinotega)	

Regular Member	Alternate
Doris Tijerino Haslam	Jose Ivan Rivera
Carlos Zamora	Hermogenes Rodriguez
Benigna Mendiola	Jose Adan Rivera
Orlando Rizo	Rigoberto Mairena

Region VII	
(Zelaya Norte)	
Regular Member	Alternate
Mirna Cunninghanm [as published]	Cesar Diaz
Hazel Law	Evaristo Rivas

Region IX	
(Rio San Juan)	
Regular Member	Alternate
Alejandro Guevara	Wilberto Lara
Daniel Ortega	Sergio Ramirez

UNO Demands Final Count

(By Roger Suarez Martinez)

The UNO called an urgent press conference at midnight yesterday to announce that 35 hours after the last report was submitted by the Supreme Electoral Council, there was no information on the counting of some 365,000 votes still to be reported.

Dr. Virgilio Godoy, speaking on behalf of the Political Council of the UNO, said that he could not understand the reason for the concealment of the results of the municipal votes and a portion of the results for the deputies' seats, since the telex messages sent from the various regions in the country include all of the information in question.

However, the recently elected vice president said that this maneuver is designed to reduce the distance or margin by which the Sandinists are losing the elections, so that they can thus retain a larger portion of the power in the Assembly or in the municipal governments.

It was announced at the press conference that the manual vote counters are canceling the UNO votes in the Regional Electoral Councils and validating the Sandinist Front votes.

"This casts serious doubts on the intention which lies behind these maneuvers," Godoy noted.

UNO believes that by midday yesterday, at the latest, the Supreme Electoral Council should have made public the information on all of the election results, but the fact is that "the CSE is sleeping, and is not doing the work which is its responsibility."

It was charged that hundreds of UNO poll watchers who participated in the civic campaign on Sunday are being threatened and attacked by Sandinist mobs unwilling to accept defeat. It was reported that the police arrested six UNO members.

Dr. Virgilio Godoy said that the conduct of the crowds must be linked with the last speech delivered by President Ortega and the aggressive messages inciting to violence carried over Radio Sandino.

The Sandinists could continue with this aggressive behavior, frightening the opposition into failing to react immediately to these anomalies in connection with the delay in the vote count, and thus gaining time for themselves in which to find a way of reducing the margin by which UNO defeated the Sandinists, Godoy said.

On being asked about the conditions Ortega intends to impose on the transfer of power, Godoy said that he cannot put obstacles in the path of this process, because the popular verdict dictates who the new government leaders must be.

"Ortega's words are incompatible with a happy culmination to this electoral process," he said.

He charged that the Sandinists have already begun distributing leaflets throughout the country, signed by some "brigades for the defense of the revolution." They seem to be the work "of a certain ministry with which we are very familiar here, and which is capable of mounting such maneuvers."

Panama

Police, U.S. Troops Launch Anticrime Operation

PA0903145090 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1411 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] Panama City, 9 Mar (ACAN-EFE)—This morning U.S. Army troops and helicopters are participating with Panamanian policemen in a huge roundup operation in downtown Panama City, the largest since the U.S. invasion of Panama in December.

Scores of persons have been arrested following searches in various districts during an operation that began at 0600 (1100 GMT) and is still under way.

Panama City's main thoroughfares are closed and there are reports of shooting, which is said to stem from some resistance from criminals. No casualties have been reported.

Witnesses have said that they saw approximately 30 persons in front of the Judicial Technical Police offices who had been tied to each other and placed face down on the pavement. Witnesses have reported similar actions in the districts of Curundu and other areas in the downtown sector of the city, over which U.S. helicopter gunships are constantly flying.

Panamanian policemen and U.S. troops who have been questioned have said that the operation is a search for thieves and other common criminals.

Arias Reports on Operation

PA0903164290 Panama City Radio KW Continente in Spanish 1530 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Report by Maribel Saldana—live or recorded]

[Text] This morning's Operation To Recover Tranquility Amid Democracy was carried out under the authority of the Government and Justice Ministry, the [Panama Provincial] governor's office, the mayor's office, the Attorney General's Office, the Judicial Technical Police [PTJ], the Metropolitan Police, the National Air Service, and the U.S. Military Police. The operation was specifically directed at the districts of Curundu, Viejo Veranillo, and Little Brooklyn to find weapons and drugs, and capture and arrest fugitives from justice and other criminals who are said to be the culprits in two incidents over the past few weeks.

Dr. Ricardo Arias Calderon, government and justice minister, said that this firm action is divided into six phases. He said the following during a news conference a few minutes ago:

[Begin recording] [Arias] This action was divided into several phases. The first consisted of cordoning off the areas to keep criminals from escaping. A second phase, of which personnel from the prosecutors' offices were in charge, consisted of entering and raiding residences and buildings where, according to some information, weapons, drugs, fugitives from justice, and other criminals were expected to be found.

A third phase consisted of moving detainees and confiscated material to the PTJ sports field in Ancon. In a fourth phase, personnel from prosecutors' offices, from Children's Court, the Women's Rehabilitation Center, and other technical and professional personnel will identify the fugitives from justice and send them to the corresponding jails. The police magistrates who have been assigned by the Panama City Mayor's Office to cooperate in this action of the Government and Justice Ministry will impart justice at the level of their jurisdiction. The remaining detainees will be remanded to prosecutors' offices. This phase is being carried out now at the PTJ sports field.

The fifth phase will consist of the actual movement of persons already sentenced who were fugitives from justice to the corresponding jails and the transfer of other persons being tried or awaiting trial to places of detention under the jurisdiction of the pertinent authorities.

I will now give you the initial reports following the launching of this Operation To Recover Tranquility Amid Democracy. It began at approximately 0630-0640 this morning. A total of 450 members of the PTJ, Metropolitan Police, and U.S. Military Police—who are supporting the Panamanian personnel—are participating in the operation. Two helicopters from the National Air Service are also taking part to report to the land forces any attempts by the criminals to escape from the target areas. Thus far, 332 persons have been arrested, of whom 319 are men, 10 are women, and 3 are minors.

One significant fact is that a well-known criminal nicknamed Half Moon [Media Luna] has been arrested. His name is (Jose Maria Infanzon Castro) and he has been recently accused of committing three murders and wounding four persons. There has been some shooting, but there have been no reports of injuries or deaths. [end recording]

736 Detained

PA1003172090 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 Mar p 1A

[Report by Manuel Alvarez Cedeno]

[Text] During an action that the government minister said cost approximately $30,000, the PTJ [Judicial Technical Police], the Public Force [PF], and the U.S. Army carried out a raid against criminals in Curundu. As a result of the raid, which was called "Operation to Recover Tranquility Amid Democracy," drugs and 47 firearms were confiscated and 736 persons were detained.

The operation, which lasted approximately six hours, started at 0600 yesterday when U.S. soldiers in combat gear and supported by about 10 armored personnel carriers and 20 Hummer vehicles closed off all access to the area and entered Curundu with Pamananian authorities.

At about 0630, criminal types and the PF exchanged gunfire in the "El Aguila" sector. According to PTJ director Leslie Loaiza, however, no one was killed or injured.

In a press conference at 0900, Government Minister Ricardo Arias reported that the raid "cost approximately $30,000." He also said: "This action was planned well in advance under President Guillermo Endara's authority and was specifically supported by the full cabinet."

He reported that PF member Tunon and PTJ member Belen Yanez had been wounded in Curundu recently and that this indicated how dangerous some of the individuals living there were.

For this raid, the PTJ members were allowed to carry heavy caliber firearms so they could confront any possible attack, Arias said.

In addition, in another press conference held at 1600, Deputy Government Minister Ramon Lima reported that 736 people were detained. All of those who have not been accused in tribunals will be released.

In the raid, which was fully organized by the PTJ, the police confiscated 12 shotguns, 24 revolvers, 11 pistols, and a yet unspecified quantity of drugs.

Lima said that the 736 people detained included 28 women, 5 minors, and 45 undocumented Colombians. The latter will be turned over to the Foreign Ministry.

"We captured some people responsible for manslaughter and some fugitives, including Jose Infanzon Castro, alias 'Half Moon,' who was the leader of a gang involved in the killing of four citizens."

Asked if the small number of firearms confiscated meant that the operation had failed, Lima replied: "Not at all, because many criminals sought by the police were captured."

Although the government has said that former General Manuel Antonio Noriega armed many miscreants with large caliber weapons, Lima said that "no military-type arms have been seized so far."

The deputy minister said: "the raid was conducted house by house."

Loaiza said that, for the first time, the people of Curundu cooperated in a police action this big and that this is proof that even here "there are also honest people concerned about the existing crime rate."

Lima said that 716 men, including U.S. soldiers, PTJ and FP members, as well as officials of the Immigration Department, public prosecutor's office, and the local corregidor's office, participated in the raid.

William Ormsbee, spokesman for the U.S. Southern Command, told LA PRENSA that 230 U.S. soldiers supported the Panamanian police force, "which was fully responsible for the operation."

Over the course of the morning and accompanied by PTJ members, several reporters entered the sector called "the yellow high-rise buildings," where the Panamanian police confiscated marijuana, cocaine, and bazuco [tobacco laced with marijuana or cocaine].

Minutes before, Chief of Police Lieutenant Colonel Armando Palacios Gondola had said at the site: "We have enough men for a successful raid."

Meanwhile, two National Air Service [SAN] helicopters flew low over the area in support of the ground forces.

Four Southern Command armored personnel carriers and soldiers armed with M-16 rifles and M-202 grenade launchers fired bullets and grenades in support of the Pamananian forces.

Those detained, who were taken to the PTJ parking lot, threatend the FP members, accusing them of "being cowards who hid themselves from the invaders and are now taking revenge on us who are innocent."

"Listen, reporter. Tell Endara he will have a civil war here. Any policeman who enters Curundu will be killed. This will be the result of our having being arrested for nothing," one of them said.

All of the U.S. soldiers who participated in the raid that included Curundu, Viejo Veranillo, El Aguila, Colombia, and Brooklyncito, were protected by bullet-proof vests—not so the Panamanian soldiers.

Arias Discusses Public Force Chief's New Title

PA0903161790 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 Mar 90

[Text] According to an announcement by Ricardo Arias Calderon, Panamanian government and justice minister, the Panamanian Government has issued a cabinet decree creating the title of National Police general director. Arias Calderon also announced that three members of the new Public Force have been discharged and are under investigation.

[Begin recording] [Arias] Eduardo Herrera is no longer the Public Force chief, because according to the cabinet decree, the Public Force has one single chief and that is the president of the Republic.

According to the decree, Herrera is the National Police general director and Lieutenant Colonel Valdonedo is the deputy national police general director.

Cabinet Decree 38 simply adapts these officers's titles to the new Panamanian reality. I must add that the suggestion of creating the new title of police general director, a title usually given to police chiefs, was made by the National Police chiefs.

[Reporter] Can you release the names of the three high-ranking soldiers who are currently working for the Public Force and who will be investigated or separated from their posts?

[Arias] I did not say anything about that. Oh, you are talking about those who were discharged?

[Reporter] Yes.

[Arias] We will release those names once the ministry studies the case and makes the corresponding decision. The National Police chiefs have sent me a request asking me to discharge three Public Force members in addition to those we have already discharged. I am studying the request. I am studying what motivated the request. I will consult with President Endara and then make the corresponding decision.

[Reporter] Why are those members of the police going to be discharged?

[Arias] That is what I have to see. I have simply received a note requesting the discharge. [end recording]

Foreign Ministry Communique on Safe-Conducts

PA1103005290 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 6 Mar 90 pp A1, A2

[Communique issued by the Foreign Ministry in Panama City on 5 March]

[Text] If it had been up to the Panamanian Government to issue or refuse to issue safe-conducts to persons who sought political asylum in different diplomatic missions in Panama, it certainly would not have issued them to any of these persons. Unfortunately, the Republic of Panama is obligated to grant safe-conducts to persons who, in the opinion of the diplomatic mission where they sought asylum, are persecuted for political reasons and for common crimes that are not considered serious, meaning politically related crimes or common crimes perpetrated for political purposes.

More than that, in cases of differences regarding the nature of the crime between the territorial state, that is, Panama, and the state in whose diplomatic missions the persons who sought asylum are located, it is up to the latter to define the nature of the crime and to demand that the safe-conducts be issued.

The executive branch is not in charge of investigating or judging the crimes that have been committed. The Constitution and the laws of the Republic assign those duties to the Attorney General's Office and the judicial branch, respectively. Hence, when an accredited foreign diplomatic mission asks the Foreign Ministry to grant safe-conduct to a certain person, the decision by the executive branch as to the nature and seriousness of the crime is based on the crime or crimes being investigated by the Attorney General's Office or being tried by the judicial branch.

The persons to whom the Foreign Ministry issued safe-conducts are not currently the object of an investigation by the Attorney General's Office for committing a crime, nor they are being investigated by the Attorney General's Office for crimes that do not give the Republic of Panama a reasonable chance of success in getting the foreign states, in whose diplomatic missions these persons are, to not grant them political asylum.

The Foreign Ministry advises that if it had not granted the safe-conducts to those persons who are not under investigation or being tried for serious common crimes, in addition to causing an international controversy where neither law nor reason would be on its side, it would legally and morally weaken the Republic of Panama's plans to oppose granting diplomatic asylum to persons who are under investigation for committing common crimes that are considered serious.

On the subject of issuing safe-conducts, the Republic of Panama must act, and will act, based on relevant local and international laws, and it expects similar behavior from the states in whose diplomatic missions the asylum seekers are located.

Panama, 5 March 1990.

Endara Declares Health 'State of Emergency'

PA1103133790 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 9 Mar p 1A

[Report by Nubia Aparicio]

[Text] Through a communique issued yesterday, President Guillermo Endara has decreed a public health state of emergency, which will be in force "until the supply of medicines and materials is ensured through rationalization and coordination measures to resolve this delicate crisis."

In addition, Dr. Rolando de la Guardia, director of the Social Security hospital, told LA PRENSA that, because of the situation among health institutions, they can attend to "life or death or very urgent problems" only.

De la Guardia said that the medical authorities have been pointing out the disastrous condition of health installations and equipment.

De la Guardia added that he thinks this is due to 21 years of corrupt, irresponsible, and incompetent management. Furthermore, the state health institutions in general are nonprofit and must be financed by the country's economy.

The director also said that, as the result of ruined institutions, a deficient administrative system, and an impoverished country, the Health Ministry, the Social Security Fund, and the interior's Integrated Health Systems "are almost completely unable to meet the population's normal health demands."

According to the official, if the economic situation is not corrected, the required aid not received, and the necessary government measures not taken, the health institutions will be forced to take extremely drastic measures to implement a minimum level of operations.

In a concerned voice, De la Guardia said that the situation is aggravated by imminent epidemics of dengue and hemorrhagic dengue, which could affect 200,000 or more people in the metropolitan area alone.

The doctor said, however, that he does not know how many people throughout the nation would be affected by this deadly disease. Dengue epidemics affected 5 million Cubans, or 50 percent of the population, in 1977 and 1978.

A dengue epidemic in Panama could cost several million dollars in international aid, which would have to be devoted exclusively to this problem.

He added that the possibility of an outbreak of yellow fever, which is much more deadly than dengue, could not be ruled out, because the conditions also exist due to the presence of the Aedes Aegypti mosquito.

The medical director also said that, should any demand, however small, "above the normal level occur—normal levels are not being met—such an increased demand on the health system and the Social Security Fund hospitals would leave them almost completely unable to meet these new demands."

This means, he added, that the mortality rate due to any of these diseases could increase considerably.

De la Guardia said that most serious is that children between three and 11 years of age from all social levels would be the most affected.

He said that the Social Security hospital, which has a capacity of more than 1,000 beds, of which half are already occupied, is finding it nearly impossible to attend to these patients with medicines, surgical operations, and adequate food.

He also said that the hospital has already been forced to cut some of the services it should provide for the community.

After giving all of these explanations, De la Guardia said there is indeed a state of emergency in the health sector.

Also, the presidential communique pointed out that public health is one of the most affected aspects in the Panamanian people's lives and that this is the result of previous inefficient administrations that substantially lowered both the quality and the number of services provided for the people in general through the Public Health Ministry and the Social Security Fund.

The communique also said that the lack of an adequate supply of medicines and medical and surgical equipment has contributed toward this difficult situation.

There are no medicines available in sufficient quantity to normalize the services and overcome the current serious deficiencies, the communique added.

Finally, the note said: We must have the necessary supplies to resume normal health services. Because of our economic limitations, the cooperation of all involved sectors is essential.

U.S. Bank Officials Meet With Endara

PA1103225590 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] High-ranking delegations from Chase Manhattan Bank and the U.S. Export and Import Bank have told President Guillermo Endara of the confirmation of new credit programs applicable to Panama. The banking delegates met with President Endara at the Metropolitan Cathedral, where Endara is completing his ninth day of fasting.

In the presence of Guillermo Ford, Panamanian second vice president and planning and economic policy minister; the Chase Manhattan Bank executives—headed by Arthur Brian, chairman of the board of directors of Chase Manhattan Bank; and including Arthur Mantrani, Chase Manhattan vice president in charge of the western area; and Olegario Barrelier, general manager of the Panama region for Chase Manhattan; detailed the new credit program covering all areas of the Panamanian economy.

The bank officials also discussed issues linked to the payment of the foreign debt, which will facilitate new loans and financial assistance for Panama.

President Endara reiterated that his administration will not change the rules that regulate banking transactions. However, Endara added—and he was understood by the Chase Manhattan executives—that the Panamanian Government is determined to eradicate money-laundering activities and drug problems in Panama. John McComber, chairman of the U.S. Export and Import Bank board of directors, announced that several offers and agreements were settled with various banks in Panama. Some of these agreements include credits for Panamanian import and export activities.

The U.S. Export and Import Bank delegation included Richard Crafton, Daniel Bond, and Douglas Hackenberg. His Excellency Deane Hinton, U.S. ambassador to Panama, also attended this meeting.

Colombian Ambassador Returns to Post 9 Mar

PA1203000690 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1326 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Panama City, 10 Mar (ACAN-EFE)—Retired General Jaime Hernandez Lopez, Colombian ambassador to Panama, returned last night and said his presence meant that relations between the two countries had returned to normal after the December 1989 U.S. invasion of Panama.

"I come to work in the best interests and good relations of our two countries and governments," said Hernandez Lopez when he arrived in Panama City on a commercial flight from Bogota.

The Colombian Foreign Ministry had called the diplomat back "for consultations" early in September 1989, just a few days after Francisco Rodriguez took his oath as Panama's provisional president. Rodriguez had been chosen by the General State Council, then controlled by the Panamanian "strong man" Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Most of the member countries of the "Group of Eight," formed by Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela, and Uruguay, withdrew their ambassadors from Panama because of the political crisis that caused this country's suspension from the group in February 1988 and the U.S. invasion of Panama on 20 December 1989.

Argentina

Menem To Meet Quayle, Howe, Craxi, Andreotti

PY0903154690 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1313 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Mar (NA)—Argentine Foreign Ministry sources have reported that President Carlos Menem will meet with British Prime Minister [title as received] Geoffrey Howe in Santiago this weekend, during the presidential inauguration.

Menem, who will travel to Chile tomorrow with Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo and a small entourage, also plans to meet with Italian socialist leader Benito Craxi, current Italian representative to the United Nations for foreign debt matters.

Menem's meeting with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's second in command will be the highest-level government meeting between Argentine and British officials since the Malvinas war in 1982.

In February of this year, in Madrid, the two countries resumed diplomatic relations that were severed due to the South Atlantic military conflict.

The Argentine Foreign Ministry is also expecting the Italian Government, in a matter of hours, to approve the financial details of several cooperation projects with Argentina; worth approximately $300 million and a grant of $150 million. Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti, who will pay a visit to Argentina next week, and Carlos Menem will sign the agreements on these cooperation projects.

U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle is also expected in Argentina. Dan Quayle may announce the date of the tour that U.S. President George Bush may make through several South American countries, including Argentina, in September.

Menem, Andreotti, and Quayle will dine together with the head of the Spanish Government, Felipe Gonzalez, early next week.

These international figures will visit Argentina after attending the inauguration of Chilean President-elect Patricio Aylwin this weekend. Afterwards they will travel to Brazil to attend transfer of power ceremonies in that country.

Agendas for Visits Outlined

PY1003183090 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1249 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Mar (TELAM)—U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle, Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti, and Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez will pay a brief visit to Argentina on 13 and 14 March as part of their South American tours. The visitors will then travel to Brazil where they will attend the inauguration of President-elect Fernando Collor de Mello.

The Argentine Foreign Ministry reported that the visitors will arrive in Buenos Aires from Santiago, Chile, on 13 March. During their brief stay, President Menem will host a reception for them at the Alvear Palace Hotel at 2100 on 13 March.

Quayle, his wife, and a large entourage will arrive at Ezeiza International Airport at 1345 on 13 March. He will be met by his Argentine counterpart Eduardo Duhalde, Senate Provisional President Eduardo Menem and Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo.

The U.S. Vice President will go to Government House where he will meet President Menem. At 1930 he will arrive at the Senate where he will meet with his Argentine counterpart. Quayle's agenda for the day will end with the presidential reception at the Alvear Hotel in Buenos Aires.

At 0800 on 14 March the U.S. Vice President will have a working breakfast with Argentine congressmen at the residence of U.S. Ambassador Terence Todman. Quayle will then go to the U.S. Embassy in Argentina where he will talk to the press.

Quayle is scheduled to lay a wreath at the monument to Liberator San Martin on the square that bears the liberator's name. From there he will go the Ezeiza International Airport and at 1050 he will take off to Uruguay.

Italian Prime Minister Andreotti, his wife, and an entourage of government officials and Italian journalists, will arrive at the military base of Aeroparque Metropolitan Airport at 1015 on 13 March. President Menem, his wife Zulema Yoma, and other Argentine officials will welcome Andreotti.

Shortly after his arrival, Andreotti will go to the Argentine Congress at 1100 where he will address the congressmen. After speaking in Congress, Andreotti will pay a courtesy visit to President Menem and will hold a news conference at Government House.

Andreotti and his wife will lunch with President Menem and his wife at the Plaza Hotel. Once the luncheon is over, Menem and Andreotti will attend the opening of the "Italy Presents" exhibit on the premises of the Argentine Rural Association in Palermo.

At 2100 on the same day, Andreotti will attend Menem's reception in honor of the visitors and will depart for Uruguay at 0900 on 14 March from the Aeroparque Metropolitan Airport. Argentine Vice President Duhalde, Buenos Aires Mayor Carlos Grosso and other government officials will see Andreotti off.

According to the Argentine Foreign Ministry, Felipe Gonzalez, head of the Spanish Government, will arrive at the Ezeiza International Airport at 1845 on 13 March. He will be welcomed by Senate Provisional President Eduardo Menem and Chamber of Deputies President Alberto Pierri.

Gonzalez and his entourage will go to the residence of the Spanish Embassy in Buenos Aires and then to the Alvear Palace Hotel to attend President Menem's reception together with Quayle and Andreotti.

According to Gonzalez's official agenda, he will have a working breakfast with President Menem at the Spanish Embassy at 0800 on 14 March and at 0930 the two presidents will talk to the press. This will be Gonzalez' last activity before his departure for Uruguay on a special flight from the Ezeiza International Airport.

World Bank Releases Credits for State Reform

PY1003002790 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1752 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Mar (TELAM)—World Bank Vice President Shaid Hussain [name as received] announced this afternoon that the international credit organization "has committed" $1 billion to Argentina to finance projects and to cooperate in the state reform that the government has begun to study.

After meeting with President Carlos Menem and Economy Minister Antonio Erman Gonzalez at Government House, Shaid Hussain announced that "we support the measures that the government has taken to ensure the stability of the Argentine economy. I admire the Argentine Government's resolve to maintain the policy pursued," Hussain said, adding that "we consider ourselves Argentina's partner in development."

Economy Minister Erman Gonzalez noted that the announced $1 billion disbursement "does not involve fresh money; it is coming in to finance projects and to cooperate in the reform of the state." Gonzalez also pointed out that this money "will be put toward social programs, especially in the health sector, and other development projects, and to temper the effects in the social sector."

Shaid Hussain also announced that the World Bank will release $82 million to continue the Yacyreta project. The World Bank vice president made these remarks after meeting with President Carlos Menem at Government House.

Belgium's Eyskens Praises Menem's 'Courage'

PY1003032490 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2231 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Mar (TELAM)—This evening Belgian Foreign Affairs Minister Mark Eyskens commented on President Carlos Menem's "courage" in implementing a program "so necessary for Argentina, a country with which we have excellent relations."

Mark Eyskens chatted briefly with journalists accredited to Government House after his meeting with President Menem, with whom he discussed bilateral relations and efforts to step up cooperation between the EEC and Argentina. The Belgian foreign minister said that they "discussed ways to help the program implemented by Carlos Menem, which is difficult and requires courage, but at the same time is very necessary for this country, with which we maintain excellent relations."

The 45-minute meeting between Menem and Eyskens was also attended by Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo and Jean Mineu, Belgian Foreign Ministry director for Latin American affairs.

Peronist Leaders Strongly Reject Alfonsin Claims

PY0903141690 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1924 GMT 8 Mar 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Mar (DYN)—Today different government circles categorically rejected allegations by former President Raul Alfonsin on the possible suspension of Congress by the executive branch, and said the UCR [Radical Civic Union] president has "too much imagination" and even a "destabilizing attitude."

Eduardo Duhalde, the vice president of the nation; Raul Granillo Ocampo, the presidential secretary for legal and technical affairs; and Ruben Cardozo, a former social action secretary, among others, have agreed to dismiss Alfonsin's allegations.

In a more cautious tone, Antonio Cafiero, the Buenos Aires Province governor and president of the Justicialist Party [PJ], has said he does not know "where Alfonsin received those reports." Cafiero said he believes it was "a hypothesis that, for the time being, and I hope for ever, will be excluded from executive branch plans."

Referring to a possible deterioration of the relations between the Radicals and the Peronists over comments made by the former chief of state, Cafiero added that the country's crisis "is so serious that we cannot manage without the UCR."

For his part, UCR Deputy Jorge Vanosi, chairman of the Chamber of Deputies Constitutional Affairs Committee, has said the former president "discharged his duty of warning about the risks involved" in the closure of Congress by the executive branch.

Vanosi added that a "prestigious column of a Buenos Aires newspaper, today speculated that the regular congressional sessions would not begin on 1 May."

The column referred to the political and legislative difficulties the economic measures would encounter in Congress. It added that "this circumstance, as well as other proposals that could find resistance, has gioven rise over the past few days to an extremely bold conjecture that the president may refrain from convening Congress for the regular session."

Vice President Duhalde has emphasized that this possibility was not reviewed by the government or by the Peronists. He pointed out that "this type of measure is only possible under a dictatorship."

Granillo Ocampo, the legal and technical secretary, has also rejected the possibility of closing Congress and has described the allegations as "a hallucination" by Dr. Alfonsin.

At any rate, Granillo Ocampo emphasized that the government will continue to seek political dialogue "despite this type of offense."

Justice Secretary Cesar Arias has said Alfonsin's allegation "is the result of his own fantasy."

"If he has any reliable information on persons involved, or implementation of these plans, he should share it," the justice secretary challenged.

Mendoza Province Governor Jose Bordon has also rejected the claim that the Peronists prefer to govern without Congress. He emphasized that "we are staunch democrats."

Bordon added that "Alfonsin is aware of the role we assigned to republican institutions when we were the opposition, and he is also aware of it now."

The Mendoza Province governor added that "I do not believe any Peronist can think of that," of closing Congress.

Ruben Cardozo, a former health and social action secretary, has emphasized that the former chief of state harbors "a destabilizing attitude." He called Alfonsin a liar because "he says one thing in public and something different in private."

Cardozo recalled that "first Alfonsin said he would help Menem as much as he could." Cardozo pointed out that "now Alfonsin is accusing the president of trying to close Congress."

In conclusion, the politician said: "Alfonsin's carelessness in telling lies contradicts his pledge to champion democracy."

Discussing the remarks of the former president, UCeDe [Union of the Democratic Center] Deputy Federico Zamora emphasized that "a new blackened face [carapintada] has appeared in Argentine politics."

"Therefore, the best thing Raul Alfonsin can do is join the ranks of Aldo Rico and Mohamed Seineldin, although they disagree in their political ideas. The three of them could continue their absurd rumor mongering as they are specialists in that," Zamora said.

Meanwhile, Peronist Jorge Arguello, president of the Buenos Aires Municipal Council, today described the remarks made by the former chief of state as unfortunate and urged political leaders to champion the democratic system.

"Today, when the system is experiencing a crisis as a result of a tough economic situation, the UCR and Alfonsin's attitude is different from the Justicialists' attitude during Alfonsin's administration," Arguello concluded.

Interior Minister Calls Alfonsin

PY0903225790 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1620 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Mar (TELAM)—Interior Minister Julio Mera Figueroa has reported that this morning he telephoned former President Raul Alfonsin and was told that his comments on an alleged plan by a government sector to close the National Congress "were not a denunciation, but an expression of concern."

"He has evidence of alleged working papers," said Mera Figueroa at Government House. "There is not enough to make a report, but he has expressed his concern that it may come true. This, however, has been totally and categorically denied," Mera Figueroa emphasized.

In remarks to the press at noon today, before leaving for Parque Norte, where the Justicialist Party plenum is being held, the interior minister said that Alfonsin's and deputy Jorge Yoma's remarks "were not linked to any center or executive branch organization."

Mera Figueroa admitted that he will talk not only with the Radicals but with all political parties. He said that he will meet with Yoma this afternoon in Parque Norte.

Senate Unanimously Approves Political Accord

PY0903175290 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1106 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 9 Mar (NA)—The Senate, in consultation with the economic and social sectors, has unanimously approved by acclamation a statement which calls for an agreement between the executive branch and the political parties. This agreement must help strengthen the democratic institutions within a climate of active and reconstructive peace.

The document, voted for by acclamation with applause by all the senators, stresses the need to defeat the hyperinflation which is not only damaging and destroying economic life and our levels of collective well being, but our communities' binding cultural ties as well.

It warns that considering the situation of many fellow countrymen, delay cannot be tolerated, and it demands immediate solutions because they are barely surviving, and that the Chamber of Deputies' call for national unity should become a reality, now more than ever, through tangible works.

The statement stresses that structural correction policies must have an important social content, so that the efforts and contributions will be equally shared by all, and to guarantee state social services such as health, education, and justice. [passage omitted]

Menem Chides Deputies for 'Squabbling,' Fighting

PY0903184990 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 9 Mar p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN)—Carlos Menem expressed "disgust" yesterday over the behaviour of some of his deputies after internal squabbling led to fisticuffs on Wednesday and JP [Justicialist Party] deputies continued to defy executive requests not to summon ministers for congressional questioning.

In a meeting attended by 44 of the 119 JP deputies, Menem criticized his own deputies for "party indiscipline," saying that the legislative summons served cabinet ministers, although constitutionally correct, was "a weapon historically in the hands of the opposition," and that its use was causing a "short circuit."

Menem was particularly referring to a summons called by various Peronist deputies for an explanation by Public Works Minister Roberto Dromi on the "filing of phoney expenses for more than three billion australes."

Violence, including a brief fist-fight between pro-Menem deputy Carlos Alaya and Oscar Gonzalez, a supporter of Peronist caucus leader Jose Luis Manzano, broke out amongst Justicialist deputies while the Dromi interpellation was being debated in a special meeting of the Justicialist bench in the Lower House on Wednesday.

"If they want to topple corrupt ministers, we'll fall with them," Gonzalez warned as heated debate turned into physical confrontation.

Ayala, dodging a right hook from his dissenting colleague, retorted: "He who helps the corrupt is corrupt himself."

There were further violent scenes yesterday as around 500 demonstrators from the Telephone Workers Union (FOETRA) blocked the doorway of the Lower House where ENTel trustee Maria Julia Alsogaray had been summoned to explain privatization plans.

When police finally ushered her in, Maria Julia revealed during a seven-hour meeting that the ownership of ENTel would be decided on June 28 following a public auction with private operation of the company beginning on October 8.

She added that the initial asking price would be 1.8 billion dollars for a 60 percent holding in the company whose total assets, she said, amounted to over 3.5 billion dollars.

Payment, she said, would be 100 million dollars in cash, 20 percent in IOU's and the remainder disbursed through debt-equity swaps.

She also announced a condition to the sale, designed to prevent the immediate repatriation of profits, which will bind the buyer to plough back 4.5 billion dollars into the company within 10 years.

CGT Secretary General Meets With Alfonsin

PY1003202590 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1226 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 10 Mar (NA)—Radical Civic Union [UCR] President Raul Alfonsin and Saul Ubaldini, leader of the Azopardo faction of the CGT [General Confederation of Labor], have agreed on the need for a political and social agreement to curb hyperinflation. Alfonsin and Ubaldini yesterday held a one-hour talk at the UCR national committee building at 1700 Alsina Street, discussing, for the first time, aspects of the country's economic crisis. [passage omitted]

Former Defense Minister Jose Horacio Jaunarena, who was Alfonsin's spokesman at the meeting, told reporters that "the dialogue was frank and broad, and they agreed on the difficult situation prevailing in the country." Jaunarena noted that they agreed on the need to "strengthen political power to defeat hyperinflation," because "the poorest sectors are the ones shouldering the cost of this policy."

Ubaldini said that "this is the beginning of a dialogue stressing the need for national unity. We still believe in a political and social pact," Ubaldini said, adding that "one single sector or party is not enough to save the democratic system."

Menem Addresses Union Leaders, Answers Criticism

PY0903164290 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0153 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Mar (TELAM)—President Carlos Menem has asserted that he has "stopped thinking about the next elections and started thinking about the next generations." He criticized some union leaders, politicians, and Justicialist Party congressmen who criticize government policy. He asked them to "be more clear" and to "join the opposition if they are against the government."

Menem also lashed at his "fellow Peronists who ally with the extreme left" and the congressmen and union leaders "who agree with extreme left proposals." He added: "We are implementing the best type of Peronism, just like General Juan Domingo Peron would have wanted us to."

The president addressed nearly 200 union leaders of the San Martin faction of the CGT [General Confederation of Labor] who went to Government House last night to express their support for the government measures. They also handed the president a document in which they ask him to declare a national emergency on prices and salaries, and to intensify and speedup tax collection.

They also asked Menem to immediately assign some of the money obtained from tax collection to "substantially improve the income of retired and invalid people" and to improve assistance to "the needy sectors, thus putting an end to the solidarity bonuses."

Menem's meeting with the union leaders took place at the White Room of Government House from 1900 to 2000. When Menem entered the White Room he received an ovation.

Guerino Andreoni was the first union leader to address Menem. A few minutes earlier, speaking to journalists, he denied the rumor that the San Martin faction of the CGT would stage a mobilization. He said: "The way to fight a crisis like the one affecting Argentina is to work, to have common sense, to make an effort to understand others, to make ourselves understood, and to seek a way of overcoming the crisis. Everything else is useless rhetoric."

Guerino Andreoni criticized the attitude of some businessmen who have readjusted prices because "in a way, they are forcing the workers and the rest of society to spend the little money that still remains in their pockets."

In his speech, Menem said: "I do not know what would have happened if we had not taken power on 8 July. We were about to engage in a civil war and we are still fighting to prevent it."

The president stressed that "distorted" reports and "lies that forecast nonexistent revolutions, to the point of licentiousness," constitute a "conspiracy that seems to have been unleashed against the Argentine Republic."

Menem held a one-hour meeting with leaders of the San Martin faction of the CGT. The group, headed by Guerino Andreoni, went to Government House where they effusively applauded Menem both before and after the meeting. They left the White Room singing the Peronist March.

Menem commented on the facts that forced him to assume the presidency before the scheduled time because of the "calamitous" state of the administration resulting from the attitude of "those who abandoned their responsibilities ahead of time."

Then, he "again" urged "his fellow party members, who seem to have forgotten their history lessons, to meditate on the situation." He made a call "to both the union leaders and also the political leaders and congressmen who do not understand that this government represents all Argentines, especially those responsible for the 14 May success."

Menem revealed that, in talks with leaders of other parties, "I was told that they are willing to continue to support and to accompany us. They also told me to control my fellow party members who are now the worst enemies of the government, who permanently criticize the government, and who continuously make negative comments."

In his impromptu speech, which lasted almost 45 minutes, the president said: "Nothing and no one will make us change our decision to seriously contribute to build a free, fair, and sovereign Argentina."

He said: "I do not know what has happened to some of my fellow party members who are acting oddly. It seems that their desire to appear in the newspapers everyday drives them to seek confrontation with the government."

"It is as if many of them have forgotten Gen. Peron's words," he insisted, "and now believe that the interests of the people are above the interests of the fatherland."

Refuting criticism of his administration, Menem pointed out: "I am not committed to certain sectors of society, I am committed to the entire country."

Concluding his speech, Menem said: "We must have faith, hope, and patience. We cannot stop fighting. We will not stop fighting." He added: "We are not betting on the destiny of a labor union or of a political party. We are betting on the destiny of the Argentine Republic. This is why I have stopped thinking about the next elections and started thinking about the next generations."

Economy Minister Antonio Erman Gonzalez also attended the meeting at Government House.

Labor Central Set To Launch Protests

PY0903183390 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 9 Mar p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN)—CGT [General Confederation of Labor]-Azopardo Central Committee yesterday gave its directive council headed by Saul Ubaldini a mandate to start a battle plan "if the government refuses to change its current economic policies," while the rival CGT-San Martin visited President Carlos Menem to express its support for his administration. "Those who criticize the government would do well to be clear and place themselves on the other side of the fence," Menem told them.

Ubaldini and a group of CGT-Azopardo leaders held a meeting last night with Buenos Aires Governor and Justicialist party chairman Antonio Cafiero, to whom they handed a copy of their "alternative plan."

The CGT-Azopardo union secretaries reached their decision unanimously, despite the fact that the proposals which obtained most applause were those for a general strike and popular demonstrations. The 187 delegates made statements and speeches extremely critical of the Justicialist administration, especially in relation with the privatization plan and the alliance with the Democratic Centre Union (UCeDe).

Slogans like "They want to sell the state out", "This is a betrayal of the popular decision" and "This government denies popular participation" were heard on the CGT-Azopardo premises before Ubaldini read a summary of the 10-point alternative economic plan to be presented to political parties, business organizations and the Church.

The document states the conditions for the labour movement's acceptance of the social pact proposed by the government to all sectors of society last week. The

conditions include the establishment of an emergency plan for the poorest sectors, an immediate and drastic change in economic policy and a pay hike to compensate the increase in transport.

Ubaldini declared the central committee on alert and underlined that "when truth is on the workers' side, the road towards justice should be our horizon." He pointed out that "we are not irresponsible but prudent" and said he would "pray to God for the government to listen to our plea."

In turn, Metal Workers Union strongman Lorenzo Miguel announced that the 62 Peronist Organizations "will descend to the political arena to discuss at the same level with the government the best solutions for the workers." Miguel emphasized that "we have already given a lot of space to the politicians and the solution do not seem to appear."

On the other hand, the CGT-San Martin held a meeting of delegates at AOT textile industry union headquarters, where they agreed on a statement demanding that the government take care of the needs of workers and pensioners and rule a "national emergency of prices and wages."

The strike front presented news in virtually all activities and industries. While the powerful UOM and SMATA metal and auro workers unions analyzed the possibility of staging strikes to force better wage proposals from the business sector in the former and to protest the lay-off of thousands of car factory workers in the latter, the teachers ratified their 72-hour strike for the beginning of next week, so that classes will not start until Thursday [15 March].

Minimum pensions were fixed at 270,000 australs in Buenos Aires province.

As for the protests, several marches and demonstrations took place in the provinces:

Rio Grande, Tierra del Fuego, was completely paralyzed yesterday by a joint protest of the labour, business and social groups ending in a demonstration which even Mayor Esteban Martinez joined. The march was to demand the return of the industrial promotion schemes which benefit the national territory.

A massive march by public employees in Chaco ended under heavy rain outside government house, where the members of the Provincial Civil Servants Union handed Governor Danilo Baroni a statement against the current privatization scheme.

A protest march staged by some 2,000 workers in the streets of Salta concluded yesterday with serious incidents with the police, damage to government buildings, shop windows smashed and a man with a cut face. The demonstrators reportedly threw stones and oranges at the provincial tourism and education departments. Last night the union leaders were discussing the possibility of staging a general strike in the province.

Cost of Living Already Up 189.6 Percent in 1990

PY1003214690 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2320 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 9 Mar (DYN)—The National Institute of Statistics and Census (INDEC) today reported that the consumer price index increased by 61.6 percent in February and by 12,086.5 percent compared to February 1989. According to the INDEC, the general wholesale price index increased by 87 percent in February while construction costs increased by 94 percent.

Today's index indicates that the cost of living increased by 189.6 percent in the first two months of the year. This index shows the monthly average and does not take into account the large price increases in the last week of February. These statistics will be "carried over" into March. [passage omitted]

Central Bank Reestablishes Export Plan

PY0903204990 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Excerpts] The Central Bank today reestablished the pre-financing export plan, which had been suspended since the beginning of February. The rural sector, especially the exporters of agricultural products, inspired the reestablishment of the plan. [passage omitted]

A new pre-financing plan has been granted to the agricultural sector, under which the term of a loan is reduced from 360 days, as previously established by the national government, to 120 days. This meets halfway the aspirations of the government and of the agricultural sector, although the agricultural sector wanted the government to refrain from reestablishing its withholdings on exports. Under the new plan, both the government and the agricultural sector have yielded a little: There will be withholdings on exports of agricultural products but the profits, generated by the loans that are designed to finance exports, have been reduced. [passage omitted]

Labor Undersecretary's Resignation Revealed

PY1203025690 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 10 Mar 90 p 11

[Text] (DYN)—Labour Undersecretary Delfor Gimenez resigned from his post last Monday [5 March] but the news was only unveiled yesterday by the Labour Ministry. The ministry explained that the resignation was in line with the government's drive to streamline the public administration and launch its "productive revolution."

Bolivia

Andean Parliament Supports Bolivian Drug Plan

PY0903162290 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] The Bolivian antidrug stand, replacing coca with development, has been supported at a meeting of the Andean Parliament Board in Quito, Ecuador.

Bolivian Congress President Gonzalo Valda, who attended the Andean Parliament meeting, has stated that the only solution for the peasant producers of coca leaves is development and the creation of more job opportunities for the large numbers of unemployed people in the country.

He stressed the importance of the Andean Parliament's approval of the Bolivian stand because this is Bolivia's first step towards seriously and responsibly facing the antidrug struggle.

Valda added that he expects the same support from the Latin American Parliament that will meet in La Paz on 20 March, and from the World Parliament that will meet on 7 April.

These expressions of support for the Bolivian position on drugs will force the highly developed countries and the EEC to provide economic assistance to support Bolivia's antidrug campaign.

Paz Estenssoro Resigns MNR Post After 48 Years

PY1003030190 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Excerpt] After leading the National Revolutionary Movement, MNR, for 48 years, Dr. Victor Paz Estenssoro has submitted his irrevocable resignation as party head in a letter addressed to the party's National Political Committee.

Victor Paz Estenssoro led the party since its founding in 1932, almost 48 years ago. He was elected constitutional president four times and headed the revolution of 9 April 1952, when substantial changes were introduced to the country's social and economic structures. [passage omitted]

President Paz Promulgates 1990 Budget Law

PY0903230790 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 24 Feb 90 p 7

[Text] The bill on the Bolivian General Budget was promulgated last night by President of the Republic Jaime Paz Zamora, concluding the last stage of the four-day constitutional procedure for the bill which was discussed last Tuesday 20 February in the Chamber of Deputies.

The chief of state signed the decree last night, thus promulgating the two-chapter and 25-article bill on 23 February. It has been officially disseminated so that within the legal period of time it will become fully effective "and will be held and complied with as a law of the Republic."

The Bolivian budget bill was approved by the National Senate yesterday morning and, a few hours later, it was sent to the Government Palace and introduced to the chief of state.

Article 1 states that, in accordance with Article 59, Number 3 of the Constitution, the Bolivian General Budget is approved, that it is effective for the 1990 fiscal year, and that it totals 8,166,309,606 bolivianos in accordance with the description of funds and expenditures registered in the annex documents sent by the executive branch.

The Budget Law emphasizes that the public-sector institutions "must submit to the Finance Ministry the information required to implement, assess, and control the budgets," or "the Finance Ministry may suspend the budgeted disbursements and tax contributions of these institutions as well as impose a freeze on their bank accounts."

Brazil

Sarney Leaves for Chile on Last Official Visit

PY1003180290 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1600 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] President Sarney left for Chile today on his last official visit as president of Brazil. He left after an official ceremony at the Brasilia Air Base.

Several ministers came to say good-bye to Sarney on his last official trip. Official protocol was not surrendered this time, and the three branches of the Armed Forces paid homage to the president while a 25-gun salute accompanied the national anthem. The president (?reviewed) the troops and delegated power to Chamber of Deputies Chairman Paes de Andrade.

President Sarney will arrive in Santiago for President Patricio Aylwin's inauguration at 1600 this afternoon. He will have dinner with Argentine President Carlos Menem tonight.

Sarney will return to Brasilia at 2100 tomorrow night.

Soviet, Cuban Officials Attend Prestes Funeral

PY0903214290 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1901 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Excerpts] Rio de Janeiro, 9 Mar (EFE)—Brazilian communist leader Luis Carlos Prestes was buried today at the Sao Joao Batista cemetery in Rio de Janeiro. The funeral procession consisted of approximately 5,000 people, including politicians and foreign representatives. [passage omitted]

The funeral was attended by Nelson Carneiro, president of the Brazilian Senate; Pedro Simon, governor of Rio Grande do Sul State; Marcelo Alencar, mayor of Rio de Janeiro; Luiza Erundina, mayor of Sao Paulo; Leonel Brizola, the social democratic leader; Luis Inacio Lula da Silva, president of the Workers Party; and Roberto Freire, president of the Brazilian Communist Party.

Representatives from the Soviet Union, Cuba, Argentina, and Uruguay also attended the funeral for the

Brazilian communist leader, who was laid to rest to the tune of "La Internationale." Leonel Brizola and one of Prestes' sons also spoke. Prestes had recently been supporting Brizola's political campaigns.

Police Concerned Over Security at Inauguration

PY0903192690 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 7 Mar 90 Special Section p 2

[Text] Brasilia—Of the 16 presidents who have already confirmed their presence at the inauguration of President-elect Fernando Collor on 15 March, the Federal Police (PF) are most concerned about Colombian President Virgilio Barco. The PF will be responsible for security of the foreign delegations that will arrive for the inauguration. As of yesterday, 75 countries and 11 organizations have announced they will send delegations. Another 35 countries will be represented by their ambassadors to Brazil.

The PF fears Barco could be the target of attacks by Colombian drug traffickers in Brazil. The Colombian Government has refused the truce proposed by the Medellin Cartel, who offered to stop illegal activities in exchange for guarantees that they will not be extradicted to the United States. Moreover, there are leftist guerrillas, such as the National Liberation Army and the Popular Liberation Army, which are not willing to give up the armed struggle in Colombia.

Police Chief Celso Soares, of the PF Social and Political Order Division, has reported that 400 agents will be at the disposal of the security system for foreign delegations. According to Soares, for daily expenses alone of agents brought from other states, the PF will spend almost 4 million new cruzados. He was unable to report on the total cost of the operation, but said the PF will even pay for the rooms of those agents that will have to stay in hotels, preferably on the same floor where the foreign presidents will be staying.

According to Soares, Barco is running quite a risk, and, to a lesser degree, so is U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle, who will be heading the U.S. delegation. Colombia, which has received decisive support from the United States in the struggle against drugs, has common borders with Brazil. According to Soares, the PF is already intensifying the control of foreigners at ports, airports, and on the dry borders of the country.

"Our advantage is that we do not have any problem with any country," Soares stated. He said the worst part of the job will be the persistent celebrity hunters. There is the case, for example, of Cuban President Fidel Castro, whose presence has not yet been officially confirmed. Soares said he has already received several requests for Castro's autograph. Following the example of Cuba, Libya has already confirmed the presence of a delegation at the inauguration, although it did not report whether it will send its top leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, another personality who is sought internationally.

According to Soares, the economic crisis in Argentina also calls for special attention to the security of President Carlos Menem, especially because Argentines can enter the country much more easily. He added that the foreign presidents will have to bring their own bodyguards who will be authorized by the PF to carry weapons in Brasilia.

Chile

Foreign Delegations Arrive for Inauguration

Quayle, Kennedy Arrive

PY1103023490 Buenes Aires DYN in Spanish 2234 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Santiago, 10 Mar (AFP)—This evening U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle arrived in Santiago to attend President-elect Patricio Aylwin's inauguration on 11 March. Quayle, who is on the third leg of his tour of six Latin American countries, is the highest-level White House representative to visit Chile since the inauguration of General Augusto Pinochet's regime 16 and ½ years ago.

The U.S. Air Force plane, which was also carrying Democratic Senator Edward Kennedy, landed at the Santiago international airport at 2127 local time (0027 GMT). Quayle will meet with Pinochet early on 11 March. He will then go to Valparaiso, 100 km west of Santiago, to attend Patricio Aylwin's inauguration.

USSR's Zagladin Brings Message

PY1103221690 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 2000 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Report by Maurico Vargas from Commodore Arturo Merino Benitez International Airport; Zagladin's comments in Russian with passage-by-passage translation into Spanish]

[Text] The Soviet delegation, which traveled aboard [Peruvian President] Alan Garcia's airplane, has just arrived in Chile.

Upon his arrival, Soviet delegate Vadim Zagladin said that he brought along Mikhail Gorbachev's message of friendship and fraternity for President Aylwin.

Zagladin indicated that he was unable to supply more information on Gorbachev's message, but said it was a fraternal and warm message.

[Begin recording] [Zagladin] Yes, we have one. There is one.

[Unidentified reporter] What is the message?

[Zagladin] After we deliver it, we will tell you the contents. I can say that the message is very friendly, cordial, and warm. [end recording]

The Soviet delegate also pointed out that they expect very soon, even today, to sign a protocol on the resumption of diplomatic relations.

A ceremony for that purpose has been scheduled this afternoon at the Foreign Ministry. During the ceremony, relations will be reestablished with several countries with which our nation had previously severed relations.

Argentina's Menem; May Meet Howe

PY1003211590 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1920 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Excerpts] Santiago, 10 Mar (DYN)—President Carlos Menem arrived here today to participate in tomorrow's inauguration of Patricio Aylwin. The Argentine president will also meet with other European and American dignitaries during the activities.

Aylwin's inauguration is exceptionally important for Chileans because it marks the beginning of the first democratic government after General Augusto Pinochet's 17-year [as heard] dictatorship.

Menem departed from Jorge Newbery Airport in the Tango-2 this morning. His entourage includes Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo; Economy Minister Antonio Erman Gonzalez; Defense Minister Humberto Romero; Raul Carignano, Foreign Ministry secretary for Latin American affairs; and Brigadier Ruben Antonietti, Presidential Military Household chief. [passage omitted]

It was reported that Menem will meet with British Deputy Prime Minister [title as received] Sir Geoffrey Howe, who has traveled to Chile to represent the queen at Aylwin's inauguration ceremony. [passage omitted]

Gonzales, Ortega, Perez, Arias, Callejas

PY1203024490 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0156 GMT 12 Mar 90

[Text] Santiago, 11 Mar (EFE)—The Spanish, Venezuelan, Costa Rican, Honduran, and Nicaraguan presidents arrived in Santiago tonight to attend Patricio Aylwin's presidential inauguration ceremonies.

The Spanish Air Force plane transporting the five chiefs of state landed at Arturo Merino Benitez Airport shortly after 2230 (0130 GMT 12 March).

The aircraft arrived from Caracas, where [Spanish Prime Minister] Felipe Gonzalez, Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, Costa Rican President Oscar Arias, Honduran President Rafael Callejas, and Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega had held a meeting.

The five chiefs of state chose to arrive in Santiago after the presidential inauguration ceremony was over to show that they repudiate the outgoing military regime headed by General Augusto Pinochet and support the newborn Chilean democracy.

Pinochet Greets Brazil's Sarney

PY1003205490 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Excerpts] Journalist Antonio Coffre reports from Arturo Merino Benitez Airport on the arrival of foreign dignitaries who are visiting Chile to attend tomorrow's inauguration ceremonies:

[Begin Coffre recording] Brazilian President Jose Sarney arrived at this international airport a few minutes ago. Sarney said that he had come to Chile to convey to the Chilean people Brazil's solidarity with the democratic process that begins tomorrow in our country. President Sarney was received by President Augusto Pinochet with honors similar than those offered to the Uruguayan and Argentine presidents, who had arrived earlier. After meeting with Pinochet at the airport's VIP room, Sarney spoke with reporters. [passage omitted]

Sarney is the third president to arrive today and to participate in tomorrow's inauguration ceremonies. The first two were Uruguayan President Luis Alberto Lacalle and Argentine President Carlos Menem.

Paraguay's Rodriguez Arrives

PY1103190090 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Report by Andrea Villalobos from Commodore Arturo Merino Benitez International Airport]

[Text] Paraguayan President Andres Rodriguez arrived at Commodore Arturo Merino Benitez International Airport in our capital a few minutes ago. Rodriguez pointed out that he believes that the return to democracy in our country represents a triumph for democracy worldwide. Rodriguez pointed out that his visit is aimed at strengthening ties between Paraguay and Chile, as the Chilean experience can serve as an example for his country.

Asked why he arrived today and not yesterday, Rodriguez said that there was no political reason; rather, he said, his country is going through a democratic transition process that requires much of his time. Rodriguez said that he wanted to be present anyway, and therefore arrived today.

Asked if the process of militarization that took place in Latin America a few years ago, and the return to democracy that Latin America is now attempting, represents a retrogression, Rodriguez pointed out that, on the contrary, there is high hope for the future of the region:

[Begin Rodriguez recording] With the civic maturity of the people, we are now arriving at what all of us—all the world—want: to live in peace, to enjoy equal opportunities, and to live in liberty, with freedom of expression and worship. In sum, to live in peace and democracy. [end recording]

Paraguayan President Andres Rodriguez also pointed out that former president General Stroessner is completely estranged from his country's politics.

Portuguese President Mario Soares is now arriving at our capital's airport and the presidential honors can already be heard. That is our report from Commodore Arturo Merino Benitez Airport.

Ecuadoran President Snubs Pinochet

PY1203020690 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2124 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] Santiago de Chile, 11 Mar (EFE)—Ecuadoran President Rodrigo Borja arrived in Santiago this afternoon to attend Patricio Aylwin's presidential inauguration, which took place today in Valparaiso, 125 km northwest of Santiago.

It had been said that Borja would arrive tonight on board the plane of Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez. In brief statements to the press, Borja said that he did not arrive earlier because, "I did not come to greet (former President General Augusto) Pinochet, because I feel more comfortable in a democracy."

He stressed that the end of Pinochet's military regime means "an institutional change rather than a personal one. I believe that on this occasion Chile puts an end to one era and begins a completely different one."

Borja also said: "There are excellent opportunities to promote full integration with Latin American democratic countries."

Borja will greet Aylwin tonight during a reception at La Moneda Palace.

Pinochet Supporters Protest Quayle's Visit

PY1103152090 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1416 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] Santiago, 11 Mar (AFP)—Bodyguards for U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle today redoubled their protection efforts amid hostile demonstrations by supporters of Augusto Pinochet's military regime. Quayle was paying a visit to General Pinochet at his residence in eastern Santiago.

Pro-government sympathizers at the gate to Pinochet's residence shouted "Yankee Go Home" [preceding three words in English] and other slogans against the recent U.S. intervention in Panama. They shouted these slogans during Quayle's arrival and departure from the site. Due to the belligerent attitude on the street, Quayle's security personnel ordered that his armored vehicle enter a fenced interior yard to shield him from the demonstration.

Quayle, Washington's official delegate to the inauguration ceremony for the new Chilean Government headed by President Patricio Aylwin, made an unscheduled visit to greet Pinochet one day after his arrival in Santiago. The 25-minute meeting was held early this morning, a few hours before the ceremony marking the transfer of presidential power from the general to his civilian successor. The ceremony is scheduled for 1600 GMT at the National Congress in the port of Valparaiso, near the Chilean capital.

Uruguay's Lacalle Discusses Meeting With Quayle

PY1103172090 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1508 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Report by Rodrigo Reyes from the Crown Plaza Hotel]

[Text] [Reyes] This important transfer of power [the inauguration of President Aylwin] will also allow various foreign dignitaries to hold informal meetings to discuss issues of mutual interest. This was the case a few hours ago here at the Crown Plaza Hotel, when Uruguayan President Luis Alberto Lacalle met U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle.

Let us listen to the laudatory remarks by Uruguayan President Luis Alberto Lacalle to the U.S. vice president.

[Begin recording] [Lacalle] I believe that he is a novelty in terms of U.S. diplomacy. He is someone who really wants to become acquainted with the nuances of what is sometimes labelled Latin America, which has so many different subtleties. He is a person open to questions, open to information.

Concerning the meeting itself, we reviewed the (?issues) that are currently drawing the attention of all South America and Latin America, particularly Nicaragua and Panama. From our point of view, we told him how the situation in Uruguay is developing.

[Reporter] Any particular commitment, any...?

[Lacalle, interrupting] No, no, just questions of mutual interest.

[Reporter] Any invitation by...?

[Lacalle, interrupting] No, no, because he is now leaving for Paraguay, and we will meet again in Brasilia. There was nothing but a mutual exchange of information. I tried to inform him about the situation in Uruguay, which is what [words indistinct].

[Reporter] Regarding Nicaragua, have any countries made any commitments to help the government that will soon be inaugurated?

[Lacalle] Yes, to help it toward the goal of seeing that the democratic transition is complete; that is, to prevent a remainder [resabio] of the old regime from infiltrating the democratic system through the command of the forces or the militia. Thank you. [end recording]

Commentator on 'Apathetic' U.S. Regional Stand

PY1003152290 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Commentary by Journalist Olga (Clivadenko)]

[Text] Before leaving Washington yesterday to begin a tour of Latin America, Vice President Dan Quayle stated that the United States will continue investing in the region because his country has always considered Latin America an area of strategic importance. He added that he was not coming to pontificate to the region or to give lessons, but to listen to the concerns of the different presidents. However, Dan Quayle did not specify how he intends to channel investments or aid. He did not mention specific projects for a region with urgent economic needs and which has been smothered by foreign debt.

The fact that President George Bush sent his vice president to the continent shows there is a true desire to improve area relations following the invasion of Panama. This fact is especially poignant now that the whole world is bewildered by events in East Europe and would like to see some funds going to support and foster those blossoming democracies.

However, the U.S. position contrasts with that of the Spanish Government. Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez also began a tour through Latin America. However, he is bringing specific projects, investment plans, and economic aid to help these forgotten Latin American countries recover. Perhaps it is premature to say this is a civilized imperialistic dispute between the two countries. However, due to their historical background, it will not be strange if Spanish socialism ends up capitalizing on the great U.S. democratizing efforts in this continent, especially considering the vacuum left by the two outgoing military regimes in Chile and Brazil, and the generally apathetic, indifferent, and neglectful U.S. position toward this continent.

Spanish socialism will not revitalize the weakening Latin American left, but could offer an alternative to the dying Soviet Marxism. This could be the price of Felipe Gonzalez' aid and cooperation.

Menem, Lacalle, Sarney Greet President Pinochet

PY1103225890 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1108 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Excerpt] Santiago, 11 Mar (DYN)—[Argentine] President Carlos Menem, who will today attend the inauguration ceremony of the new Chilean president, Patricio Aylwin, again denied that he has considered ordering the closure of the National Congress and said that he felt "surprised" at Raul Alfonsin's charges, which "are so damaging to Argentina abroad."

Menem talked with the journalists at La Moneda Palace for the second time since he arrived here to participate in the presidential inauguration ceremony.

The Argentine head of state greeted Chilean President Augusto Pinochet, whom he described as "a man who worked hard for his country, irrespective of the matter of the rights" of individuals.

Earlier, in response to questions upon his arrival at the airport in Pudahuel, Menem described as "completely unfortunate" the charges made by Alfonsin last week during a television program in Argentina.

"Both in Argentina and in other countries there are talkative people," Menem said bluntly, adding: "There is no such plan; neither the Argentine president nor any official ever thought of closing the Congress."

The 15-minute meeting between Menem and Pinochet was held at La Moneda Palace. At the end of the meeting, the Argentine president said: "We talked about everything concerning the integration of the two countries, and especially the integration of the Andean region with the River Plate Basin."

Only three American heads of state greeted Pinochet. In addition to Menem, Uruguayan President Luis Lacalle and Brazilian President Jose Sarney greeted Pinochet. The other heads of state who will participate in the ceremonies marking the restoration of democracy in Chile after 17 years [as heard] of dictatorship will arrive in Chile after Aylwin is president.[passage omitted]

Adm Merino Criticizes Ortega, Garcia

PY1003233290 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0339 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Santiago, 9 Mar (EFE)—Admiral Jose Toribio Merino, former commander in chief of the Chilean Navy, today harshly attacked Peruvian President Alan Garcia and Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega.

Asked about the fact that only three of 11 presidents, who will be in Chile for Aylwin's inauguration, will salute current President General Augusto Pinochet on Saturday, Merino said: "We have all kinds of them. I will not shake hands with that man, Garcia from Peru. He is filthy [mugriento]." The admiral continued: "Neither will I shake hands with a grimy person who has killed any number of patriots and who is creating trouble for that lady...what is her name?...Chamorro." Merino was referring to Ortega, who will arrive in Santiago on Sunday.

Merino, who retired after 16 years as Navy commander in chief, made these remarks after a Government Junta farewell session. The Government Junta has functioned as a legislative branch since 1973.

Merino said: "Some people who do not want to shake the president's hand come from wretched countries where people are dying of hunger; countries experiencing desperate inflation and economic situations. They are properly represented [son unos pueblos tales por cuales]."

Merino and Pinochet are the only military officers who have remained in power since the 11 September 1973 coup.

Pinochet's Farewell: Urges Support for Aylwin

PY1003020090 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Speech to the nation by President Augusto Pinochet; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] Chileans: We are approaching a truly historic moment for our fatherland's destiny. In a few more hours the government, which I am proud to preside over, will turn political power over to new, democratically-elected authorities. This will begin a crucial period for our nation.

For this reason I want to address my fellow Chileans tonight, to give a message on behalf of the Armed Forces and Carabineros to express our satisfaction and legitimate pride over the historic opportunity we had to lead this country when its sacred interests so demanded.

Beyond the differences which sometimes pitted us against each other, and artificially separated us, I am convinced that a significant portion of the Chilean people have supported us throughout our administration. These Chileans joined their efforts with those of our soldiers to save our freedom, reconstruct democracy, and make Chile increasingly prosperous and just.

I did not hesitate during the difficult hours. I was always ready to face the enemies of freedom and democracy without fear or hesitation. My attitude will always be based on the oath of honor with which I began my military career, which compels me to devote all my efforts to the fatherland.

Today I want to thank all those who have cooperated with enthusiasm, loyalty, and devotion in the task of recovering peace, freedom, and democracy, and in establishing the foundations for this progress of which we are so proud. I want to especially express my gratitude to the high-ranking officers of our Armed Forces, with whose support we were able to fulfill the task to which we committed ourselves in September 1973.

I also want to express my sincere and deep gratitude to all of you men and women of Chile, because you were the main participants at an unprecedented stage in our national history and you showed the entire world that Chileans can exercise with dignity the independence won on the battlefield. We know how to be the owners of our own destiny.

I wish the best for my fatherland, and I will always be ready to serve it because I truly love it. I ask you to maintain unity and to respect the institutions and the rights of each one of our fellow Chileans. Let us not forget that Chileans who live in the farthest corners are working to reassert our sovereignty in the name of all and to produce the foundations for our future.

Let us never forget either that the poorer people require all of our help and cannot be sacrificed in favor of sectarian or private interests. I ask you to help the new authorities. The new government under Mr. Patricio Aylwin must carry out very important tasks to consolidate and improve on all the progress we have achieved up to today. The fruits of this progress are enjoyed by all Chileans.

The country's well-being must always be put above all party interests, no matter how legitimate these interests may be. The new president has the right to expect a responsible and respectful attitude toward the principles we profess. Let us not believe that our achievements of the past 16 years have been fully consolidated, because man's work is usually fragile and can be destroyed very quickly.

If we want to continue advancing toward new horizons, we must be ready to confront those who are always ready to destroy the bases of growth and peaceful coexistence.

Fellow Chileans, in this final salute as the president of all Chileans, I want to conclude by expressing my wish that God will guard and illuminate our wisdom and hearts. In my regular visits to the country I have been made aware of Chilean generosity. I am sure that this generosity will once again help us to unite in a single effort to ensure the success of the new government, the well-being of all Chileans, and the future we deserve.

I therefore invite you to join each other in a fraternal embrace and to shout with all the strength in your hearts and minds: Long live Chile!

Mayors, Ministers Deliver Resignations

PY1003183990 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] All mayors of the country who have had the confidence of President Pinochet have officially tendered their resignations. They are the mayors of Arica, Iquique, Antofagasta, Valparaiso, Vina del Mar, Concepcion, Talcahuano, Puerto Montt, Coihaique, Punta Arenas, Santiago, Conchali, Nunoa, Las Condes, and La Florida. A note issued by the Interior Ministry Under Secretariat states that these resignations have been presented voluntarily and will take effect as of 11 March.

The same note states that all ministers have also officially tendered their resignations, these will also take effect on 11 March 1990. This note confirms the action of a few days ago. All current officials will step down from their posts as of 11 March, giving way to the new authorities designated by President-elect Patricio Aylwin.

Today the under secretaries of foreign relations and of regional development also officially announced their resignations.

Demonstrators Throw Debris at Pinochet's Car

PY1103183090 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1630 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] Valparaiso, 11 Mar (AFP)—Persons opposed to the regime of Chilean President Augusto Pinochet showered his car with various objects as he was approaching the National Congress building where he was to transfer the presidential office to his civilian successor, Patricio Aylwin.

The violent demonstration occurred as Pinochet, the head of a military regime that has held power for 16 and ½ years, was riding in a convertible on the main street of the port of Valparaiso, the seat of Congress.

Pinochet had to duck down to avoid the tomatoes, sticks, and stones thrown at him by the angry demonstrators while his bodyguards desperately surrounded his car, reporters said. The demonstrators, who were apparently led by relatives of "missing detainees" during Pinochet's administration, shouted "murderer, murderer."

Aylwin Inaugurated; New Ministers Sworn In

PY1103175590

[Editorial Report] Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish at 1500 GMT on 11 March begins live coverage of the inauguration of Chilean President-elect Patricio Aylwin from the new National Congress building in Valparaiso. After being sworn in as president, Aylwin administers the oath of office to the following ministers and officials:

Interior	Enrique Krauss Rusque
Foreign Relations	Enrique Silva Cimma
National Defense	Patricio Rojas Saavedra
Economy, Development, and Reconstruction	Carlos Ominami Pascual
Finance	Alejandro Foxley Rioseco
Public Education	Ricardo Lagos Escobar
Justice	Francisco Cumplido Cereceda
Public Works	Carlos Hurtado Ruiz-Tagle
Agriculture	Juan Agustin Figueroa Yavar
National Resources	Luis Alvarado Constela
Labor and Social Security	Rene Cortazar Sanz
Health	Jorge Jimenez de la Jara
Mining	Juan Hamilton Depassier
Housing and Urban Affairs	Alberto Etchegaray Aubry
Transport and Telecommunications	German Correa Diaz
Secretary General of Government	Enrique Correa Diaz
Secretary General of the Presidency	Edgardo Boeninger Kausel
Director of the National Planning Office	Sergio Molina Silva
Executive Vice President of the Production Development Corporation	Rene Abeliuk Manasevich
President of the National Energy Commission	Jaime Toha Gonzalez

President Aylwin Addresses Nation

PY1103231090 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 2212 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Speech by President Patricio Aylwin Azocar from a balcony of La Moneda Palace to crowd gathered at Bulnes Plaza and Constitucion Plaza in Santiago—live]

[Text] People of Santiago, fellow countrymen:

Thank you for such a happy, enthusiastic, and warm welcome. I know quite well that your happiness, your enthusiasm, and your warm feelings are focused not on a man but on the fatherland, which has regained its freedom. [applause]

We want to have a Chile of all Chileans, with all Chileans, and for all Chileans. [applause]

I am aware of the responsibility that you have placed on my shoulders. I promise you that I will devote all my efforts, and that I will use the best of my abilities, to fulfill your desires of rebuilding in our fatherland a true democracy in which there will be not only freedom, but also justice and solidarity. [applause]

Today will go down in the history of our country and that of the entire world. Rulers and representatives of friendly countries have come here to join us in this celebration. We thank them for their solidarity in times of grief and for their presence here at this time of joy. [applause]

Chile has returned to democracy and has done it without violence, without bloodshed, without hatred. It was acheived through peaceful means. [applause]

The task ahead of us requires that we all make efforts, and that we show dedication and generosity. We must take good care of this child that is now being born; of this freedom we are winning back. We will take good care of it if we are able to respect each other, if we never again...[applause] if Chileans never again regard other Chileans as their enemies. [applause]

We may think differently, we may have different beliefs, we may worship God according to different faiths, but together we make up this nation which was built by O'Higgins, Carrera, and the other founders of the fatherland. [applause]

This is the fatherland, which, according to the national anthem, should be the refuge of free people and should oppose all forms of oppression. [applause]

Countrymen, I ask of you that this enthusiasm, that this will for friendship that prevails among us, guide our steps. I need your help. What we need to do, we must do together. It will not be the work of a president, it will not be the work of a party or of a group of parties, it will be the work of all Chileans. [applause]

I know that there are countrymen who wish to have the freedom of which they were unjustly deprived. [applause] I know that there are countrymen living far away from our country who want to return to the fatherland, and who want to be able to work and to rebuild their families here. I know that there is a great desire for change and justice. I would like to say that it is our will to create the path to real freedom for all Chileans as soon as possible. [applause]

We do not want political prisoners in Chile. [applause] I would like to say that it is our will to do all that is humanly possible to make truth shine in national life, because only truth can make us free, because the confidence of the people can only be placed in truth, which will ensure a life of peace and tranquility. Where there is no truth—where truth is not respected—mistrust and doubt emerge. These create hate and suspicion, which in turn lead to violence, but Chile no longer wants violence. It no longer wants war. It wants peace. [applause]

I know that there are many Chileans who hunger and thirst for justice, so that people may improve their standards of living. They want Chilean progress to benefit not only a minority, but all the women, youth, and aged of this land. [applause]

I would like to send a special message to the Chilean workers who with their effort are building the nation every day. They must be our basic concern.

Friends, countrymen, let us begin this new day with our hearts open to understanding and solidarity. I have confidence in the Chilean people, and I hope that with their confidence we will together be able to build the country we want to have. I hope in four more years, which is a short term compared to others, [applause] to be able to come before you, before all the Chilean people, to say: Chileans, together we have built a free, just, and fraternal nation for all its children. Thank you.

Police, Demonstrators Clash

PY1203023490 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0023 GMT 12 Mar 90

[Excerpt] Santiago, 12 Mar (TELAM)—About 100 people were injured, one of them seriously, as a result of violent clashes between police and demonstrators near La Moneda Palace before and after President Patricio Aylwin delivered a speech, from the palace's balcony, to a crowd gathered below in the Plaza de la Constitucion.

The demonstrations began around 1830 when demonstrators attacked Carabineros with bottles and stones. The police responded with tear gas and truncheons.

Carabineros Lieutenant Colonel Augusto Sobarzo said that a group of common criminals attacked the police guarding the intersection of Bernardo O'Higgins and Tiatinos Avenues.

Although members of the youth civic organization of the new government tried to control the situation, the clashes turned into a real battle. Witnesses reported that the Carabineros attacked the crowd when slogans against the "regime and its repressive actions" were shouted.

Sobarzo also reported that "about 30 Carabineros were cut by broken bottles." [passage omitted]

Relations With East Europe, USSR Resumed

PY1203010890

[Editorial Report] Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish at 2055 GMT on 11 March broadcasts live clips of the ceremony at La Moneda Palace at which the protocols are signed on the resumption of relations between Chile and the GDR, Czechoslovakia, the USSR, Yugoslavia, and Poland.

At 2055 Chilean Foreign Minister Silva Cimma is seen talking with Klaus Hartmann, the East German ambassador to Peru, who will be the concurrent ambassador to Chile. The protocol is read and the two men sign it.

At 2107 Silva Cimma and a representative of Czechoslovakia are shown signing a similar protocol. At 2109 Silva Cimma and Vadim Zagladin, adviser to the chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet on international issues, are shown talking about perestroyka. Vladimir Nikitin, deputy chief of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Latin American Department, is also shown in the room. The actual signing of the protocol with the USSR is not shown.

A station announcer reports that protocols have been signed today with the USSR, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Poland, and the GDR. At 2117 GMT Silva Cimma is seen talking to unidentified reporters as he leaves La Moneda Palace. When asked what the protocols mean for Chile, Silva Cimma replies: "The ceremony held this afternoon represents the commitment made by President Patricio Aylwin to his people. This is the result of the program drawn by the Coalition of Parties for Democracy in which we promised the Chilean people to resume relations with all countries."

Asked about relations with Cuba, Silva Cimma replies: "The Cuban case is under study, not because there is a rejection, but because there are some situations that should be more thoroughly studied within the framework of our program. We are going to resume relations with Mexico on 20 March."

Asked if renewed relations with any other countries are being considered, the foreign minister replies: "For the time being only Mexico and Cuba. We will also study the situation of other countries, such as Mozambique, which wants to establish diplomatic relations with us. This is part of our policy of international relations."

One reporter asks what Chile will do to resume relations with Latin American integration organizations such as the Andean Pact. The foreign minister says: "President Aylwin has said, and I would like to reiterate, that the purpose of the new administration is to open up to the world, and especially to open up and intensify its relations with the Latin American countries, because we consider ourselves members of the Third World, which includes Latin America. We do not pretend that we are no longer a developing country, and that is why we believe it is essential to strengthen our relations with the sister nations of Latin America. This means that we will thoroughly consider participation in the different international organizations, especially Latin American ones such as ALADI [Latin American Integration Association], SELA [Latin American Economic System], and others. We will study with modesty our participation in these organizations in order to have the voice of Chile heard again in the world."

Aylwin: No Trials Against Military Institutions

PY1103160590 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1434 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] Madrid, 11 Mar (AFP)—Chilean President-elect Patricio Aylwin has emphasized that "we will not call for any trials against the military institutions which we consider to be a cornerstone for building the new democratic state." In an interview published today by the Madrid newspaper ABC, Aylwin added that "it will be the task for the proper courts to judge the particular cases (of human rights violations) that may exist, so that truth and justice will prevail."

In another interview, this one published today by the Madrid morning newspaper EL INDEPENDIENTE, Aylwin insisted that "undoubtedly, our priorities are to democratize the society, to find the truth regarding human rights violations, and to carry out justice to the greatest extent possible, without a vengeful attitude."

"One of the tasks of my government will be to make an effort to reestablish the conditions of coexistence and peaceful and permanent cooperation between civilians and the members of the Armed Forces,' the president-elect told EL INDEPENDIENTE.

Aylwin told ABC that he trusted that the Army commander in chief would obey the institutional civilian power. "At any rate, my government will make sure that the Constitution is respected," Patricio Aylwin insisted.

In the EL INDEPENDIENTE interview Aylwin explained that the government "is leaving us some laws that detract from the proper institutions of a democratic governor." However, the new Chilean president is "very confident (...) that the implementation of democracy will gradually undo those ties."

Aylwin told EL INDEPENDIENTE that "the stabilizing effect of democracy (...) makes the permanent understanding between socialism and the Christian Democratic Party (PDC) a very important feature. [no closing quotation mark as received]

Aylwin Decree Pardons 'Political Prisoners'

PY1103143490 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1313 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] Santiago, 11 Mar (EFE)—Francisco Cumplido, the justice minister in the incoming Chilean cabinet, today reported that Chilean President-elect Patricio Aylwin has issued a decree pardoning all political prisoners [prisioneros politicos de conciencia]. The minister reported that the decree was signed by Aylwin on 10 March and will become effective on 12 March.

According to statistics from the Chilean Human Rights Commission (CChDH), a total of 411 people are classified as political prisoners, who, according to the outgoing military regime of General Augusto Pinochet, are "subversives." Relatives of the political prisoners occupied the metropolitan cathedral in Santiago yesterday to call attention to this problem.

The minister said: "I understand this attitude, but I believe that it is not conducive to the atmosphere of understanding that we need in Congress in order to approve other bills related to this issue."

Chamber of Deputies, Senate Elect Leadership

PY1103185490

[Editorial Report] Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish at 1707 GMT on 11 March reports that Christian Democratic Party [PDC] Senator Gabriel Valdes was today elected president of the Chilean Senate and independent Senator Beltran Urenda Zegres was named the new vice president.

At 1714 GMT TELAM carries a report that Jose Antonio Viera-Gallo, a deputy for the Party for Democracy, was elected president of the Chamber of Deputies after defeating Deputy Evelyn Matthei of the right-wing National Renewal Party by an 84-35 vote. PDC Deputy Carlos Dupre was elected first vice president and Juan Antonio Coloma, of the Independent Democratic Union, second vice president.

Bomb Explodes Near U.S. Consulate in Santiago

PY1003114390 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1108 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Santiago, 10 Mar (AFP)—Several bombs went off in Santiago last night. One of them exploded in front of the U.S. Consulate, injuring one person. Another bomb

damaged the Santiago Criminal Court building located approximately 300 meters from the headquarters of the defunct CNI (National Intelligence Center).

Almost simultaneously other bombs went off at a state tourist agency in the posh neighborhood of La Providencia and at a telecommunications company located near the residence of General Manuel Contreras, former head of security of the military regime.

No organization has thus far claimed responsibility for the attacks which took place just a few hours before Patricio Aylwin's is to take office as president. Aylwin will succeed General Augusto Pinochet at a ceremony that will take place in Valparaiso, 100 km west of Santiago.

The bombs went off despite the severe security measures that Carabineros have instituted to maintain order and guarantee the safety of government officials and personalities who will attend the inaugural ceremonies.

Several Bomb Attacks Reported, Three Injured

PY1003141890 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Police sources have reported a series of bomb attacks in different parts of Santiago last night. The first attack occurred at 2230 [0130 GMT 10 March], at 4540 Juan Griego Street, a Mormon Temple, in San Joaquin District. Later on, at 2004 Italia Avenue there was another bomb attack that caused less damage. On MacKenna Avenue, behind LA TERCERA daily facilities, a noise bomb went off at 2245.

At 2255, a bomb went off at SARNATUR [state tourism agency] at 1550 La Providencia Avenue and damaged windows. At 2300, a bomb went off at La Florida Police Criminal Court and damaged several windows. At 2305, a bomb went off in the front yard of the (?Univial) Analysis Center, Inc., at 324 General del Canto Street. The bomb damaged the center's windows.

In downtown Santiago, a bomb went off at 2250, at 360 Santa Lucia Street, where an Inter-Chile office is located. The bomb damaged six triple-glass windows. Also at 2250, a bomb damaged the facade of an Army building at 217 Republica Street and damaged its windows. At 2250, a bomb went off at 24 Espana Avenue, where several criminal courts are located. Several windows were damaged and three unidentified people suffered acoustic trauma and were later treated at a local public hospital.

In San Miguel District, a bomb went off at 2300 on Rios Street. The bomb consisted of 300 grams of ammonium gelignite. Police also reported that, at 2350, Carabineros personnel defused a bomb containing 300 grams of Tronex [expansion unknown], which had been placed at the Emos [expansion unknown] office at 9130 Santa Rosa Street.

FPMR Faction Claims 9 March Bombings

PY1103025190 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2359 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Santiago, 10 Mar (AFP)—Today a faction of the leftist FPMR (Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front) claimed responsibility for seven bomb attacks in Santiago on the night of 9 March which left three injured, just two days before the inauguration of President-elect Patricio Aylwin.

Aylwin said that the attacks were very [word indistinct] and he wondered who could be doing this type of thing, which contradicts the atmosphere of reconciliation that the new government wants to promote.

In a phone call to AFP, Mariela Vargas, spokesperson for the autonomous faction of the FPMR, said that the attacks reflected their demand to put on trial outgoing President Augusto Pinochet and those responsible for human rights violations during his regime. A communique read by Vargas said: We demand an answer from the new government; if no answer is given, we will consider ourselves free to carry out any action with impunity.

The FPMR staged an attack against Pinochet on 7 September 1986 during which five of his escorts died. After this attack the autonomous faction split from the other FPMR faction, which has ties to the Communist Party.

Argentina's Cavallo on Area, British Relations

PY1203031090 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1329 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Report by TELAM special correspondent]

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 11 Mar (TELAM)—Argentine Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo today said that "the presence of the Argentine, Brazilian, and Uruguayan presidents will greatly help to promote integration and the consolidation of democracy in Chile."

Cavallo stressed that "the Latin American integration, that we are promoting, will not be possible without Chile." He emphasized the new process that begins in Chile today and "the presence of President (Carlos) Menem at all the ceremonies" of the presidential inauguration.

Cavallo told some Argentine correspondents that "at President Patricio Aylwin's request," the Argentine President "attended all ceremonies held here, including a meeting with General Pinochet."

Cavallo said that during his recent visit to Argentina, Aylwin had asked Menem to greet Pinochet, because such an act "would greatly contribute to the mission to be carried out by all Chileans."

Cavallo added that Argentina "wants the Chilean democratic process to develop in the best possible way, so that current bilateral relations can be strengthened."

In this regard, he said: "We are ready to promote integration in the area of energy and other activities." He added: "There are always possibilities of competing in some fields, because when there are possibilities for competing, there are also possibilities for our economies to complement each other."

He said that "developing such complementarity depends on Argentina stabilizing its economy, to which we are devoting all our efforts, with the support of all countries."

Asked about the meeting that President Menem will hold tomorrow with British Deputy Prime Minister [title as received] Geoffrey Howe, Cavallo said that "we are anxiously awaiting this meeting" because "this will be the first top-level meeting" since the restoration of diplomatic relations in February.

Concerning the exchange of ambassadors between Argentina and Great Britain, Cavallo said: "We will have news on the subject as soon as Queen Elizabeth acts in her capacity as queen of Great Britain."

Argentine Foreign Ministry sources have said that the name of the new British Ambassador to Argentina "will be probably" released by the end of March or early in April.

During a long interview with Argentine journalists, Cavallo criticized the cabinet of which he is a member by saying: "Sometimes we act carelessly because we do not known each other as well as we should."

"No one has held public post for 30 or 40 years like in Europe. We have had personal contacts for a long time, but we have never worked as a team," Cavallo concluded.

MIR Calls For 'New Revolutionary Organization'

PY1003000390 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] The MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] has called on all leftist groups to form a new revolutionary organization capable of dealing with the problems of socialism.

The MIR political committee states in a communique that the left must renovate itself in order to build its own independent profile and to regain the support of the masses, thus paving the way for a socialist plan with freedom and justice. The MIR communique notes that the people are expecting changes, which are only feasible through strong organization and unity of the people.

United Socialist Party Registers With Board

PY0903190690 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] This morning the United Socialist Party of Chile submitted its registration application to the Electoral Board. This party is comprised of the Almeyda faction and the Arrate faction. The party's highest leaders were accompanied by Salvador Allende's widow, Hortencia Bussi, and her daughter Isabel Allende Bussi.

Due to a legal prohibition placed upon Clodomiro Almeyda, the party was unable to register its executive board. Instead they delegated authority to an administrative commission headed by Pablo Lagos as president, Francisco Fernandez as secretary general, and Ernesto Gala as treasurer. Clodomiro Almeyda explained the meaning of the ceremony for socialists:

[Begin Almeyda recording] All of us are tacitly committing ourselves to be faithful to Salvador Allende's legacy. We, and future generations, must work for this in Chile. [end recording]

Jorge Arrate added that the Socialist Party reiterated its decision to contribute to the democratic reconstruction of the country.

Arrate recalled all former secretary generals, particularly Clodomiro Almeyda, who lost his political and civilian rights for violating Article 8 of the 1980 Constitution. This article has since been amended. Arrate also recalled Carlos Altamirano, the highest ranking Socialist leader at the time of the 1973 military coup. Arrate said that Altamirano is living in France where he faces unfair charges.

Army Terms Release of Terrorists 'Inappropriate'

PY0903181290 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] According to the magazine CARTA CONFIDENCIAL, the Armed Forces said the issuing of a total or partial amnesty for terrorists would be very inappropriate.

The measure would release a great number of subversive criminals onto the street who will join those who escaped from a Santiago prison under very strange circumstances on 30 January.

The magazine adds, quoting the Army chief of staff, that declarations made by terrorist spokesmen saying they will cooperate with Aylwin's government are just a distraction and a smoke screen to cover-up their real intentions.

Their release, therefore, would pose a serious threat to our renovated democracy under the 1980 Constitution, the magazine concludes.

Police Discover New Drug Trafficking Route

PY0903155490 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] The Carabineros' Narcotics Department, OS-7, has discovered a new drug trafficking route and arrested three individuals carrying cocaine worth 10 million pesos.

The route begins in Peru, passes through Chile, and ends in the United States. Two of the individuals, Carlos Ramon Gallardo Ponce and Sergio Marquez Vargas, were arrested in the Lo Vazquez neighborhood and confessed that the drugs were delivered to them in Peru and they were supposed to ship part of them to the United States.

Police later raided a residence in Cerro Carcel, Valparaiso, and found one-kg of cocaine buried in the yard. According to the residence's owner, Mario Eduardo Ponce Montenegro, the drugs belonged to his nephew, Carlos Ramon Gallardo Ponce. Ponce Montenegro was placed at the disposal of Casablanca criminal court and the drugs were sent to the national health department.

Colombia

Upsurge of Violence Reported on Eve of Elections

PA1003011490 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2332 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] Bogota, 9 Mar (DPA)—The death of one secret policeman and the serious injuring of another is the toll of an attack staged today by unidentified people against a police patrol in Medellin. It was learned that the agents were in a vehicle when several men opened fire from another moving vehicle. This attack adds to the climate of violence that has shaken the country which is only a few hours away from the 11 March municipal and legislative elections.

Meanwhile, there have been reports from Bogota of armed clashes between military troops and pro-Cuban Army of National Liberation (ELN) guerrillas in rural areas of northern Cordoba and Cesar Departments.

The ELN has issued clandestine communiques threatening to sabotage the elections. Recently, after incursions into some townships and small villages, ELN members stole identification cedulas (indispensable in voting) from dozens of people.

The authorities have reported that purported ELN members dynamited two electrical towers near the northwestern township of Anori, leaving a large region of the country without power.

This morning a column of the communist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) ambushed a police patrol near the city of Puerto Inirida, seriously wounding a policeman.

Two Patriotic Union Leaders Killed in Chigorodo

PA1003183390 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1803 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Bogota, 10 Mar (DPA)—Two leaders of the leftist Patriotic Union (UP) were killed today in the northwestern Colombian town of Chigorodo, less than 24 hours before the municipal and legislative elections are to begin.

According to preliminary reports, the bodies of Nestor Cuesta and Angel Palacios were found with several bullet wounds in a local dump.

Over the past few weeks, the UP has demanded that the government adopt effective measures to protect its members, many of whom have been threatened with death by ultra-rightist paramiliatry groups.

So far this year, 74 UP activists, including about 20 leaders, have been killed in various parts of the country.

The violence unleashed against the UP since it was founded in 1985 has taken the lives of over a thousand members of the group, which recently accused three Army officers—Generals Harold Bedoya Pizarro, Adolfo Clavijo, and Carlos Gil Colorado—of being involved with the ultra-rightist death squads.

Municipal Council President Killed

PA1103123490 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2052 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Bogota, 10 Mar (DPA)—Pablo Cano Ruiz, municipal council president of the eastern town of Tame, was murdered today by unidentified individuals, it was officially reported in Bogota.

This new violent incident follows the killing of two leaders from the leftist Patriotic Union (UP), Nestor Cuesta and Angel Palacios, whose bodies were found in a trash can in the northwestern town of Chigorodo.

According to reports, Cano Ruiz, a member of the ruling Liberal Party, was traveling along a rural road near Tame, Arauca Intendancy, when he was shot at by several men.

The political violence that is spreading in Colombia has worsened over the past few days, thereby creating a tense climate prior to the municipal and legislative elections scheduled for tomorrow.

ELN Abducts Mayors; Plan for Fraud Discovered

PA1103131390 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0142 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] Less than 12 hours before the elections are held, the public order situation in Norte de Santander Department has been disrupted by a wave of kidnappings of mayors and political leaders. The ELN [Army of National Liberation] has abducted Hacari Mayor Hernando Torres Jaimes; Silos Mayor Jose Anil Portillas;

and Tibu Mayor Eduardo Roldon. They have also captured mayoral candidates in the Tibur and Tachira .

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Do you have any information on the fate of mayors detained by subversive groups?

[Norte de Santander Governor Eduardo Assaf] There are unofficial last minute reports saying that the lives of mayors and of mayoral candidates who have been detained will be respected. We have confidence in those reports, and hope that those detained will be able to return safe and sound to their homes now or after the elections. [end recording]

Elections will not be held in Vargas Corregimientos and Lomas del [words indistinct] due to the absence of the authorities.

Electoral authorities discovered a huge operation in the city of Ibague and in other towns in Tolima Department to perpetrate electoral fraud in the 11 March elections. To counteract this plan, 10,000 double registrations were annulled in the entire department of Tolima.

Tolima Department will have 1,853 polling tables. A total of 68 polling tables were suspended in the capital of Tolima Department at the last minute. There were 10,000 double registrations in Tolima Department. In this regard, Alvaro Molina departmental delegate from the National Registrar said: [Begin Molina recording] It is estimated that in Tolima Department, at least 10,000 people were registered twice. [end recording]

Power Supply in Coastal Areas Cut

PA1003142790 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0454 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] The Atlantic Coast Electric Corporation (CORELCA) has reported that four departments along the Caribbean coast are experiencing partial blackouts because of several electrical towers have been blown up.

According to CORELCA, power supplies to the departments of Sucre, Bolivar, Atlantico and Magdalena has been cut by 35 percent.

The sabotage was blamed on alleged guerrillas of the pro-Castro National Army of Liberation (ELN), near the town of Anot, in the Department of Antioquia, 300 km northwest of Bogota.

The ELN, which is trying to sabotage the 11 March legislative and municipal elections, announced last week that on 10 March it will begin a 48-hour ceasefire, and that it will be inactive during the elections.

The other Colombian guerrilla groups several weeks ago decreed a unilateral truce, to create a favorable climate for the elections, and to prove to the government their desire for peace and possible dialogue. These other groups are the Communist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), the Maoist Popular Liberation Army (EPL), the Trotskyite Revolutionary Workers Party, and the Indian Quintin Lame Front.

Official Reports Calm as Elections Start

PA1103142590 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1251 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Interview with Deputy Government Minister Jose Noe Rios by J.J. Pinilla in Bogota—live]

[Text] [Pinilla] Here with us now is Deputy Government Minister Jose Noe Rios, who will give the country the first report on the public order situation throughout the country. Good morning, Dr. Rios.

[Rios] Good morning, so far the information we have received from the governors indicates there is complete normalcy, except for one development. We will have to postpone the elections in Siti Municipality, Choco Department, for three reasons. The National Civil Service Office delegate did not arrive in Siti. Also, vote-counting officials were not previously appointed for the voting places. Third, the registration of identification numbers was not carried out for various reasons. The Government Ministry worked until the last moment to correct that situation. The Choco Department government has just told us that it was not possible, and so we had to postpone the elections in that municipality. Elsewhere in the country, the situation is completely normal.

[Pinilla] How is the situation in the town of Lopez de Micai in Cauca Department, and in Putumayo Intendancy?

[Rios] There will be elections in Lopez de Micai. We had problems sending the electoral census, but this problem was resolved late yesterday. We had been told that the electoral census had not arrived, but the registrar has just told us that the electoral census is now in the town, so the elections will proceed as normal.

[Pinilla] Studio reporter Juan Gonzain and other colleagues have some questions for Dr. Rios.

[Unidentified reporter] In general terms, can we tell the country there is complete peace?

[Rios] In general terms, we can tell the country there is peace and normalcy, and assure the people that all can vote amid a climate of joy and democracy.

[Gozain] How is the situation in Norte de Santander, following the kidnapping of three mayors?

[Rios] We just talked to the governor. The worst situation was in Almaguer, but that seems to be entirely under control. All the critical points that we had identified as of last night are also under control. Right now, we expect that elections will be held throughout the country, except in Siti.

[Gozain] Thank you, we will be in contact all day to see how the situation develops around the country.

[Rios] We are at your service.

Elections Conclude With 'Only a Few Disruptions'

PA1103223490 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2116 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] Bogota, 11 Mar (DPA)—The legislative and municipal elections in Colombia concluded officially at 1600 (2100 GMT) today with only a few disruptions of public order.

It was learned in Bogota that the elections were postponed in the towns of Chivolo, Lopez de Micay, Sipi, and Santa Rosa because the electoral authorities did not appear.

The most serious incident of violence took place in the central Tolima Department, when individuals believed to be members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) ambushed an Army patrol and killed two soldiers.

Colombians 18 years of age and older went en masse to over 46,000 polling places set up all over the country, in a festive atmosphere colored by people shouting slogans in favor of their candidates.

The elections, the results of which are expected in the next few hours, were for the selection of 1,009 mayors, 114 senators, 199 representatives to the lower house of the parliament, 421 departmental deputies, 10,802 municipal councilmen, 44 councillors of intendancies, and 45 town councillors.

In addition, the electors voted in a "popular consultation," a mechanism for the election of the presidential candidate of the ruling Liberal Party.

Projections of a private polling company indicated that as of 1400 (1900 GMT) presidential hopeful Cesar Gaviria Trujillo had 1,044,000 votes (61 percent).

Meanwhile, the aspirant in second place, Ernesto Samper Pizano, with 316,059 votes (18 percent), and Hernando Duran Dussan, with 246,563 (14 percent), seem to be out of the running.

The same poll indicates that as of that time Alberto Santofimio Botero had 64,050 votes (four percent); Jaime Castro Castro, 33,829 (two percent); and William Jaramillo Gomes, 18,352 (one percent).

Gaviria Elected Liberal Party Candidate

PA1103224890 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2133 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] Bogota, 11 Mar (DPA)—Cesar Gaviria Trujillo, a 43-year-old economist, became the presidential candidate of the ruling Colombian Liberal Party today by a wide margin of 60 percent in the "popular consultation," an election held at the same time as the legislative and municipal elections, the radio station network Caracol reported today. The results were reported only a few minutes after the elections ended at 1600 (2100 GMT) in a relatively calm atmosphere.

Simultaneously, a private polling concern that conducted a survey in nearly 90 percent of the country's voting precincts announced that Liberal Party candidate Juan Martin Caicedo was elected the new mayor of Bogota and another Liberal Party member, Omar Florez Velez, will become the mayor of Medellin, Colombia's second largest city.

The first results, which are not official, were released by the electronic media after the government for the first time in Colombia's history gave them permission to announce election figures before the official announcements of the Civil Registration Office, the state agency in charge of counting the votes.

According to the report, Gaviria led his opponents by a wide margin. Ernesto Samper Pizano received 18 percent, Hernando Duran Dussan, 15 percent; Alberto Santofimio Botero, four percent; William Jaramillo Gomez, two percent; and Jaime Castro Castro, one percent.

Gaviria, who was always a favorite in the polls, replaced Senator Luis Carlos Galan as the Liberal Party's presidential candidate. Galan was assassinated by the criminal drug-trafficking mafias last year.

M-19 Leader Gaviria Elected Mayor of Almaguer

PA1203022190 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2322 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] Bogota, 11 Mar (DPA)—Just two days after having ended his armed struggle along with his comrades of the 19 April Movement (M-19), former guerrilla leader Dumer Gaviria became the mayor of the southwestern Colombian town of Almaguer today.

This is the first M-19 victory since the former insurgent group surrendered its weapons on 9 March to a Socialist International technical commission and decided to incorporate itself into civilian life to participate in politics.

Top M-19 leader Carlos Pizarro Leongomez, who had registered as a candidate for mayor of Bogota, received a surprising eight percent of the vote, according to unofficial data provided by a private polling company.

Another top M-19 leader, Rosemberg Pabon Pabon, former "Commander Cero," [as received] who directed the takeover of the Dominican Embassy in Bogota on 27 February 1980, has a good chance of becoming the new mayor of the town of Yumbo, in the southwestern Valle del Cauca Department.

Colombians went to the polls today to elect 1,009 mayors, choose the presidential candidate of the ruling Liberal Party, and elect new municipal authorities.

Barco Speaks on Venezuela Talks, M-19, Elections

PA1103040790 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0114 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Speech by President Virgilio Barco from the Presidential Palace in Bogota on 10 March—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Compatriots, tonight I will speak to you on the special importance of tomorrow's elections, and will urge you to vote. However, before we talk about that subject, I also want to refer to two very significant events. The first is the document of commitment I signed with Venezuelan President Dr. Carlos Andres Perez. The second is that the M-19 [19 April Movement] is no longer a guerrilla group.

I am very pleased with the great step taken in the direction of integration between Venezuela and Colombia, two fraternal countries united by a shared history, [words indistinct] friendship, with common ideals and interests. On 6 March, at the San Pedro [words indistinct], we agreed with President Carlos Andres Perez on a modus operandi so Venezuela and Colombia can constructively solve pending matters in a climate of mutual respect and through direct negotiations and decentralized commissions. This historic event opens up a horizon full of hope.

The peace process that led to the reincorporation of the M-19 into civilian life successfully concluded yesterday. All their war materiel was delivered to a commission appointed for this purpose by Socialist International, which is the international association of the Social Democratic Party. The government, through military expertise, has assessed the arsenal and estimates that all conditions established in the law and the initiative for peace, which I announced to the country a year and a half ago, have been met.

Yesterday morning in [words indistinct] in Cauca Department and [words indistinct] in Huila Department, Socialist International decided that the weapons would be incinerated and melted down. Based on an amnesty law approved by the Congress, the pertinent judges are ordering a halt to proceedings for crimes committed by M-19 members. Last night, on 9 March, the peace agreement, that incorporates the points of agreement reached among the political parties, the government, and the M-19 was signed. The reincorporation of the M-19 into civilian life is undoubtedly an unprecedented action, and is the result of the government's policy of reconciliation. I hope all other guerrilla groups will welcome this peace initiative. The disappearance of the M-19, which as a rebel group caused so much suffering to Colombia, and its reincorporation into political life are a recognition of the fact that Colombian democracy is sufficiently broad enough that changes may take place through institutional means rather than violence. The legitimacy of the political regime has been strengthened, and it is clear that the armed struggle has no justification.

In Colombia, channels to express dissatisfaction are open [7-second break in reception] for criticism, to then become an alternative to govern. Moreover, we have been improving and must not cease in these efforts [6-second break in transmission] its efficiency has been proven. In addition, the state should continue acting firmly to fight subversion and to allow guerrillas wishing to lay down their weapons to do so following a serious, clear, and realistic plan.

With the reincorporation of the M-19, a clear path for the future has been set to attain a stable and long-lasting peace; a peace that has sound foundations based on social changes and on the reforms we have been implementing since 7 August 1986. [passage omitted]

I am talking about the plans for agrarian reform, urban reform, and tax reform; the plans to fight poverty, decrease unemployment, and establish children's welfare homes, and the national rehabilitation plan. In the political and institutional areas, I am talking about the government-opposition scheme and the new forms of citizen participation that we have promoted.

The M-19 now has the same duties and rights of any party willing to accept the democratic rules of the game. It may freely defend its ideas, obviously, however, without using violence. This is how it should be in a democracy.

Let us now address the topic of the elections. Tomorrow, all of you will have the opportunity to vote and freely voice your political preferences. It is a right that Colombians must fully appreciate. Having the opportunity to elect your rulers and make important decisions is so important that the people in several Eastern European countries rebelled last year to demand the recognition of this democratic right. I urge you to peacefully and independently exercise your right to vote, because millions of citizens in other countries wish they had this privilege.

Everyone should realize that we will have historic elections this Sunday. Certain characteristics make them very special. I will mention a few of them. After the national [word indistinct], for the first time in these elections the political parties as a whole—those who supported the government and those who opposed it—will be evaluated by the people for the policies they defended and the ideas they opposed.

With the government-opposition party scheme, the responsibilities of each party are more clearly defined, especially those of the Liberal and Social Conservative Parties and the Patriotic Union. You know well what each one of them has done and what their representatives have done in Congress and other public bodies. You must evaluate them and make a democratic judgment with your votes.

Tomorrow, the citizens of each municipality will also have the opportunity—after popularly elected mayors have been in office for two years—to choose new municipal leaders. This government has promoted this important change that was first conceived in the past administration. From the very beginning of the current government, I promoted the adoption of a legal constitutional provision that now the popular election of mayors. And four years ago, before mayors were elected to office, I promoted the idea to appoint mayors while keeping in mind the wishes of the majority of the people in the respective municipality.

In this manner, we preserved the principle that the majority, regardless of its ideas, has the right and responsibility to govern. That is why the Patriotic Union won seats in 24 municipalities. However, the Social Conservative Party made a decision which we condemn. It ordered its followers not to accept the appointments. I gave instructions so that qualified civic mayors were designated regardless of their political affiliation.

We contributed to the consolidation of the government-opposition model in which sectarianism does not fit because all political currents are respected.

In tomorrow's elections the people will be able to choose the presidential candidate of one of the parties. Six candidates from the Liberal Party hope to be granted this responsibility and this honor. Allowing citizens to actively participate in the internal affairs of a political party, such as the nomination of candidates, is one of the most important aspects of the expansion of democracy. On 25 February 1988, I said it was necessary to create new opportunities for the direct participation of Colombians in the decisions that affect us the most. I made three specific proposals so that we could go from a representative democracy to a participatory democracy.

One of these proposals was to democratize the political parties. I am very pleased to see that the Congress has approved the law that allows for national consultations to be held to choose presidential candidates.

This Sunday's elections are also special because candidates from the M-19 will participate. Never in the recent history of the country has a subversive group laid down its weapons to become a political party and peacefully promote its ideas.

Tomorrow, the citizens will also have the opportunity to mark what we have called the seventh ballot. In this ballot a request is made for the Constitution to be amended by a wide-open and representative constituent assembly. This initiative, promoted by university youths, has received wide support, including that of leading spokesmen from all political and social forces. It is an expression of the will to make institutional changes that gained support 2 years ago, when I proposed a plebiscite in January 1988.

We must all rejoice over the fact that our youth are giving an example of the benefits of participatory democracy in which citizens with civic spirit actively participate in public life. I am pleased to witness this act of faith in a democratic process and in the people's sovereignty, which is this new mechanism to exercise the constitutional duty to vote.

Just like many compatriots, I am hopeful about the possible opening of a new path to amend the constitution. The special characteristics of Sunday's elections give greater significance to the vote. You have many matters on which you must make decisions. The alternatives to choose from are clearer than in the past. As I said two years ago, no one is forced to vote. However, a citizen who is worried about his future, his family's future, and his country's future cannot go without voting. For this reason, a large turnout is beneficial for the strengthening of institutions and the country's reconciliation. It is also a rejection of violence in all its facets. It rejects the violence of narcoterrorism which threatened our democracy, as well as that of the guerrillas. It is also a rejection of the intolerance of those who murdered political activists.

I want to praise the courageous attitude of leaders, who, despite threats from terrorists, have participated in electoral debates. With their determination, they are defeating the enemies of democracy.

To vote freely is also tantamount to promoting clean elections. The open debate promoted by the government and the opposition parties has led to the discovery of improper electoral practices. Such practices are traces of an era that is being overcome and that must disappear once and for all.

I urge voters—as the guardians of freedom—to report any illegal practice making it [word indistinct] voting independently, without forgetting that the vote is secret. [2-minute passage indistinct]

The Armed Forces are fulfilling their mission to maintain the necessary order so that the voters can go to the polls freely. They are making one more contribution to democracy. You, citizens, with your vote, must support them.

Compatriots, [words indistinct] the strength of Colombian democracy. Each citizen has the responsibility to give [words indistinct] I invite you to defend your freedom and actively participate in guiding the destiny of our fatherland. Good evening.

M-19 Guerrillas Plan for Civilian Life

PA1003025290 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0008 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] For the 19 April Movement [M-19] guerrillas, today's ceremony marked the end of a romantic dream that began 15 years ago and quickly turned into a crude reality of blood and fire.

Everyone woke up early today. They had to collect their belongings, use their remaining ammunition, and receive final instructions. The 130 men and women from the Gloria Amanda Rincon column had already turned over their weapons to representatives from an international commission. On 8 March they ate their final lunch and held their weapons for the last time.

After surrendering their weapons to the international commission, the second step undertaken by the guerrillas at La Gaitana camp was to burn their uniforms and other supplies.

Despite the anxiety of the past few days, some of the guerrillas already have plans for the future.

[Begin recording][Reporter] What are you going to do for a living?

[First guerrilla] I am a mechanic. I want to seek further training in that field.

[Second guerrilla] I will work as a bodyguard.

[Reporter] What will you do once you return to civilian life?

[Third guerrilla] I can work as a bodyguard and go to school.

[Reporter] What are you going to study?

[Third guerrilla] I will study to become a mechanic. [end recording]

The international commission returned this morning. The last rifles were emptied in their presence. The complete supply of weapons was turned over to them. The helicopter that carried the weapons to Cali to be melted down took off at 1130.

Finally, it was time to leave. Filled with emotion and convinced that their demobilization was a victory for peace and democracy in Colombia, the M-19 guerrillas proceeded on their way to civilian life.

We can also report that M-19 guerrilla leaders Carlos Pizarro and Antonio Navarro Wolff have met with President Virgilio Barco to sign a peace agreement. The meeting was really a symbolic act for our country because we are witnessing the return of a guerrrilla group to civilian life. It was an act of peace. Greetings were exchanged and both sides welcomed a peaceful Colombia.

'Reliable Source' Says ELN To Seek Peace Talks

PA1003140090 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1232 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Cali—Following elections, the self-styled Army of National Liberation [ELN] will hold talks with the national government to end their armed struggle and return to democratic life.

Valle Department Governor Ernesto Gonzalez Caicedo, who yesterday accompanied Government Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds in the ceremony marking M-19's [19 April Movement] surrender of weapons and reincorporation to civilian life, said that a reliable source had informed him that the ELN is interested in holding a dialogue to reach a peace agreement.

Foreign Minister Comments on Relations With Cuba

PA0903230090 Paris AFP in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] Bogota, 9 Mar (AFP)—Colombian Foreign Minister Julio Londono Paredes said today that Colombia does not plan to restore diplomatic relations with the Cuban Government.

The foreign minister made the statement before departing for Santiago de Chile, where he will represent President Virgilio Barco at Patricio Aylwin's inauguration on 11 March.

Responding to questions posed by reporters from Colombia's Todelar Network, Londono Paredes said that even though Colombia does not maintain diplomatic ties with Cuba, "our relations are cordial and friendly."

Londono Paredes declined to comment on a possible change of attitude by the Castro government, saying that "any decision regarding Cuba's future must be made by the Cubans themselves."

"The Cubans must decide on the path that they will follow," the foreign minister said, noting Colombia's "fluid and cordial relations" with Cuba.

Colombia broke off relations with the Havana regime in March 1981, when the president, Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala (liberal), discovered that Fidel Castro's government was training the left-wing guerrillas of the M-19 [19 April Movement].

Londono Paredes disclosed that, so far, the Group of Eight (Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, and Colombia), has not considered the possibility of Panama returning to the organization.

Colombia, Venezuela Deal 'Harsh' Blow to ELN

PA0903180590 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1601 GMT 8 Mar 90

[Text] Bogota, 8 Mar (DPA)—It has been officially announced that Colombian and Venezuelan authorities dealt a harsh blow to the guerrilla Army of National Liberation (ELN) when, in a border region, they broke up a rebel column that operated in both countries.

The military operative led to the capture of 12 ELN members who had kidnapped several cattle breeders and property-owners in the border area.

One of the guerillas, Roberto Albarracin Rodriguez, was captured in the Venezuelan town of Ruasdualito by members of the Venezuelan Judicial Technical Police (PTJ), while Colombian authorities captured 11 others in the eastern Arauca Department.

The ELN, the most radical of all the armed groups operating in Colombia, has threatened to sabotage next Sunday's municipal and legislative elections.

Over the past few days, ELN fronts have kidnapped several mayors, government officials, and cattle breeders, and they have stolen peasants' identity cards, without which they cannot vote.

Barco Speaks on Cooperation Agreement Signing

PA0903192890 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1719 GMT 6 Mar 90

[Speech by President Virgilio Barco Vargas at the ceremony to sign the San Pedro Alejandrino Document in Santa Marta; monitored in progress—live]

[Text] ...not only of the provisions of the Andean Pact, but also of the vast horizons of the Caribbean and the Central American region. As we join efforts, as we strengthen our capabilities, and with the long tradition of democracy that we share, we can offer our contribution to strengthening our democracy. All the democrats of the Americas who see a great fighter in you, Mr. President Perez, are now celebrating a positive wave of legitimate elections; for example, in Uruguay, Chile, Brazil, Costa Rica, and Nicaragua. Very shortly Colombia and later Peru will hold elections. Panama, in turn, has called for popular consultation in the form of a referendum so the people will decide on important constitutional reforms.

Throughout the Americas, democracy is the path and that is why it will be the adequate means for strengthening the OAS as a regional organization in which the various trends and ideologies within a common objective of searching for peace, freedom, liberty, and justice may and should be expressed and consulted upon. There, the members will be able to discuss topics that affect us in a direct manner, such as international trade, foreign debt, and technical cooperation, and also how to increase the scope of action with various interlocutors, such as the case of Canada—the entry if which into the OAS we warmly welcome.

Therefore, let us consider the reasons for this meeting which we do not hesitate in terming historic. The documents are evidence of how much we have advanced in specific achievements in the fields of energy, communications, transportation, and border transit; in joint programs in city planning such as the Cucuta-Villa El Rosario-San Antonio-Urena; in the agro-industrial and environmental sectors; and in Indian ethnic groups, customs, and education. All of these are topics we have discussed over the past few days with our respective teams. However, there is one topic that I wish to emphasize.

There is an enemy who seeks to destroy the integrationist and democratic project. There are anachronistic redoubts of a subversive nature that are today surrounded by our military forces and our hard-working people. The enemy feels his days are numbered and he expresses himself though violent actions by kidnappings, extortion, and indiscriminate terrorism; by destroying oil pipelines; and by contaminating rivers, water basins, and lagoons. Our commissions have suggested positive means for working jointly on these rivers, water basins, and lagoons, and have signed an agreement that is already being implemented on oil spills and accidents.

Colombian democracy will prevail over this internal enemy and, undoubtedly, the integration programs will continue with renewed vigor. The technical management of the water resouces, the electricity and telephone interconnections, the feasibility studies for the various alternate routes that will connect us, the reopening of the bridges that were closed 30 years ago, the utilization of the Camilo Daza Airport in Cucuta as an alternate airport for San Antonio, the agreement on fishing policies, the plans to increase crops ranging from sugarcane and cotton to chiqui-chiqui fiber, are positive answers to those who insist on disrupting things.

International policy today not only understands the traditional concept and the preservation of national sovereignty, but above all, it points to people's well-being and increases their capabilities for consumption. It is not by blowing up oil pipelines or preventing the people who live along the river banks of both countries from fishing or by poisoning their crops that people's well-being will be achieved.

I am sure that the San Pedro Alejandrino Document we signed today is a gradual but decisive step toward authentic Latin American integration. By the decision of their people and promoted by their rulers in this simple room where the liberator died, we are today consolidating these bases that will not be destroyed and will prevent in the future any further frustrations of the dreams of the liberator, Bolivar.

Mixed commissions will be appointed shortly and will get down to work on what we have yet to do. They will continue with a truly liberating task, that today—as from the times of the Congress of Angostura—is uniting our two nations. Thank you. [applause]

Paraguay

President Reschedules Chilean Inauguration Trip

PY0903174590 Asuncion RPC Television Network in Sapanish 1600 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] Information received from Santiago, Chile indicates that those delegations that do not greet outgoing President Augusto Pinochet will not participate in the inaugural ceremonies at 1100 [time as received] on 11 March in Valparaiso.

Paraguayan Government sources have reported that no impositions will be tolerated and that, consequently, the departure of the Paraguayan presidential delegation has been set back. Instead of leaving at 0600 on 11 March, as initially scheduled, the delegation will depart at 1000 from the Silvio Petirossi International Airport. The arrival in Santiago is estimated at 1330.

The only official ceremony that President Rodriguez will attend on 11 March will be the concert in honor of visiting delegations at the Municipal Theater at 2030.

On 12 September he will attend the Te Deum mass at 0930. At 1100 the new Chilean president will be greeted by visiting delegations, a lunch will be served at 1300, and the Paraguayan president plans to depart Santiago for Asuncion at 1600.

Interior Minister Acting President

PY1003210390 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 10 Mar 90 p 13

[Text] This morning the executive branch issued Decree 5089 designating Interior Minister General Orlando Machuca Vargas as acting president during the absence of President Andres Rodriguez. This decree confirmed a rumor that began circulating yesterday.

Unofficial sources have said that there is some government dissatisfaction with Dr. Juan Ramon Chaves over his sudden decision to withdraw his resignation from the presidency of the ANR [National Republican Association].

During President Rodriguez' absence, the interior minister will take care of the administration in keeping with the terms of Decree-Law 31 dated 24 March 1970.

Laino To Visit Chile, Will Meet Quayle

PY1003143690 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 10 Mar 90 p 7

[Text] Domingo Laino, president of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA], will travel to Chile today at the invitation of President-elect Patricio Aylwin, who will be sworn in as president of Chile tomorrow. On that occasion Laino will talk with members of Chile's incoming administration, elected freely after 16 years of military rule.

Laino will return 12 or 13 March and plans to meet with U.S Vice President Dan Quayle. The opposition leader has been specially invited by the U.S. ambassador to Paraguay, Timothy Towell, to meet with the U.S. politician who is touring Latin America. The meeting will take place at the U.S. Embassy in Asuncion early on 13 March.

Peru

New Terrorist Group Behind Bombings; 1 Wounded

PY1003192490 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1507 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Excerpt] Lima, 10 Mar (EFE)—Senator Armando Villanueva del Campo, a veteran leader of the ruling American Popular Revolutionary Alliance (APRA), has reiterated his offer to the Shining Path to hold a dialogue aimed at bringing peace to Peru.

Villanueva explained that he is reiterating his offer of a dialogue even though at an earlier occasion "I was shot at by way of an answer."

Not only Villaneuva, but also the Catholic Church and a special commission appointed by the current Peruvian Government at the beginning of its administration, tried to get in touch with the Shining Path but got nowhere.

The church has stated that it is impossible to get in touch with the Shining Path because it refuses to establish contact, and steps up its violence whenever dialogue is mentioned.

A new guerrilla organization, the Patriotic Front for Liberation [Frente Patriotico de Liberacion—FPL] yesterday appeared on the turbulent Peruvian political scene. It carried out several bomb attacks, in which one person was wounded.

The FPL bombed two offices of the center-right Democratic Front (Fredemo), led by writer Mario Vargas Llosa, and three offices of the Lima water utility.

The Peruvian National Police confirmed the formation of the new guerrilla group that has now joined the Shining Path, the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement and the paramilitary Rodrigo Franco Guerra Commando Group.

The FPL left several leaflets criticizing the government and state institutions near the places that were bombed.

In the meantime, the Shining Path has announced there will be an armed strike—a strike under threat of death—in Ayacucho Department on 12 and 13 March. [passage omitted]

Garcia Calls for Increase in Election Security

PY0903142890 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] President Alan Garcia has asked the Armed Forces and the National Police to be especially careful in maintaining the peace during the 30 days preceding the elections.

Garcia also called on the political parties and candidates to increase their personal security measures because the victims of most attacks had been careless and overly trustful of terrorists.

The Congressional Permanent Committee has granted Garcia permission to leave the country to attend the inaugurations of Chilean President-elect Patricio Aylwin, and Brazilian President-elect Fernando Collor de Mello.

Uruguay

Minister Views Area Relations, Group of Eight

PY1003013090 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 2 Mar 90 p 6

[Second part of "exclusive" interview with Foreign Minister Hector Gros Espiell by EL DIARIO reporter Jacobo Jarmusz in Montevideo; date not given]

[Text] [Jarmusz] Minister Gros Espiell; Bolivia and Uruguay have signed agreements regarding the use of the Nueva Palmira free port, however, nothing else has been done so far. What can be done to encourage Bolivian and Uruguayan businessmen to make contact, seeking to establish binational enterprises or joint ventures [preceding two words in English]?

[Gros Espiell] As you have rightly said, the juridical framework has already been established. There is no need for any changes, only the need to make it feasible and operational by overcoming bureaucratic obstacles, doing away with the red tape that is not in keeping with the vitality we seek to give this process. Free zones are essential. Uruguay's law referring to free zones is excellent. These zones are open to businessmen, men of action, and enterprises from Bolivia, Paraguay, etc. But the truth is that these free zones do not operate as they should. I am certain that the Uruguayan Government, which seeks to turn the free zones into an active tool for national and regional development, will grant them the necessary support and will remove all bureaucratic barriers and make them operational as soon as possible.

As President Luis Alberto Lacalle himself has said; The free zones, not just the Nueva Palmira and Fray Bentos ports, should cease to be used as warehouses—which is the old idea of the purpose of free ports—but should have modern factories, joint undertakings, and binational or tripartite enterprises. The free zones should be development tools in the broadest sense of the word. I reiterate, they should not just be used to store merchandise or as a place to transfer merchandise bound for the United States or Europe from Bolivia or Paraguay by other means of transport. The free zones should be integrated formulas for the economic process and joint development.

[Jarmusz] Minister Gros Espiell, is there any chance that the Bolivian Linabol Shipping Company will reach the River Plate either by river or sea? If so, would Uruguay make special concessions to encourage that type of transport or would it look into the possibility of bilateral agreements for this purpose?

[Gros Espiell] I know nothing about the subject, but, in principle, I think there are no juridical obstacles. The subregional integration process for the countries of the River Plate Basin calls for agreements among them and for their enterprises regarding special concessions and an adequate system of benefits. If this enterprise, as others, shows interest in using the advantages granted by the free zones of Uruguayan ports or the facilities that Uruguay can grant in that regard, as well as promoting Uruguayan activities in Bolivia and Paraguay, I am sure that any initiative in this direction will be welcome.

[Jarmusz] As you know Minister Gros, the dock workers of the five member countries of the River Plate basin have established an international organization, based in Montevideo, to contribute to regional integration through greater use of the Paraguay-Parana waterway. This organization has been very active and truly supports the governments. In this sense, how do you view the private sector's participation in the important waterway project?

[Gros Espiell] I consider that sector's contribution essential. It would be absurd to believe that the integration process in general, and particularly the waterway project, can be implemented and carried out by the governments alone. The government set the overall juridical framework and the political course for their implementation, but it is the people and the private sector's duty to take care of the content, activities, development of this process, by turning the waterway into a true channel of participation and common wealth.

[Jarmusz] Considering the need for the immediate development of river transportation between Uruguay and Bolivia, which began last month with the arrival of the first shipment of Bolivian soybeans in Nueva Palmira, do you believe that it is time to consider bilateral agreements to favor and facilitate this mode of transportation?

[Gros] I don't doubt that it is time.

[Jarmusz] Would Uruguay be inclined to support a new configuration of the Group of Eight in which, adding Bolivia, Ecuador, Chile, and Paraguay, it would become the Group of Eleven?

[Gros] The answer is affirmative, although there are some factors to consider. The Group of Eight undoubtedly performed a great task, but it was created in a different political time, in response to a different situation, and was made up institutionally and personally of men who are no longer at the political helms of their countries. President Lacalle has therefore said—and I have repeated—that the Group of Eight's role has to be reconsidered, should it continue to exist, and its membership must be reconsidered, depending on the interest in continuing the group. If the Group of Eight continues, there is no reason to not include democratic countries like Paraguay, Bolivia, Chile, and Ecuador. It would otherwise be unacceptably discriminatory and would turn the Group of Eight into an element of friction,

discrimination, and political strain. We cannot have it this way. The Group of Eight, or whatever the group is called, should be something else. Let's not forget though that any modification of the group must be made through a consensus of the seven current member-countries. A strategy or tactics designed not to create opposition should be adopted. All the democratic countries of South America and Mexico should by consensus participate in the group's activities. Of course, this should not imply a confrontation with the Central American and Caribbean countries. The group should aim for negotiation and coordination.

[Jarmusz] Do you think Bolivia and Chile can coexist in that group? As you know, diplomatic relations between these countries were broken years ago.

[Gros] I believe that there is no contradiction whatsoever. Both countries are members of the OAS and the United Nations even though they do not maintain bilateral relations. There is a principle accepted in international law that formal or informal participation in a multilateral international organization is not predicated on the existence of bilateral relations among member countries. I also believe that traditional or nontraditional channels should be sought to bring about dialogue between Bolivia and Chile to find a mutually satisfactory solution.

Navy To Purchase Two Used French Destroyers

PY0903124690 Montevideo LA HORA POPULAR in Spanish 27 Feb 90 p 5

[Text] The Navy will purchase two decommissioned French destroyers owned by a French military equipment society for approximately $13 million.

The Navy will immediately pay 18.5 million Francs for the two ships, the Comandante Bourdais and Admiral Chamer. The French Military Equipment Society will provide long-term financing.

An executive branch resolution establishes that the first disbursement will be made under Project No. 968 of Program No. 003 called "Purchase of floating units and recovery of those in stock."

New Under Secretaries, Chief of Police Appointed

PY0903215690

[Editorial Report] Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish on page 8 of its 3 March edition reports that Nicolas Herrera was sworn in as economy and finance under secretary yesterday. The same page carries a report indicating that Julio Maglione will be the new public health under secretary.

The same newspaper in its 4 March edition on page 4 reports that President Luis Alberto Lacalle yesterday swore in Police Inspector Osvaldo Ramon Diaz as the chief of police of Montevideo along with 19 other chiefs of police for the remaining departments. On page 11 it reports that Carlos Dellpiazzo will serve as the new defense under secretary.

Montevideo EL DIA on page 9 of its 5 March edition reports that Conrado Serrentino has been sworn in as transportation and public works under secretary.

Venezuela

Spanish Prime Minister Gonzalez Arrives

LD0903111790 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 8 Mar 90

[Text] Caracas, the capital of Venezuela, where the Spanish prime minister arrived just a few minutes ago, has become the principal meeting place for democracy in Latin America, where there will be a series of meetings between the main leaders of the continent. In the end, however, and in spite of what was suggested this evening, a meeting was not possible between Felipe Gonzalez and the president-elect of Nicaragua, Violeta Chamorro. Over to our special correspondent Javier Arenas.

[Arenas] Felipe Gonzalez has been in Caracas for a few minutes—for just over half an hour. He was met, informally and only for reasons of friendship, at the aircraft by Carlos Andres Perez himself. The president of Venezuela stressed the Spanish prime minister's repeated strong inclination for cooperation with Latin-America. In the end, Violeta Chamorro and Felipe Gonzalez missed each other by just a few minutes. The president-elect of Nicaragua left Simon Bolivar Airport shortly before the arrival of the Spanish aircraft.

Quayle Arrives; Meets Perez, Gonzalez

PA1003015790 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 0005 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Reports by Marbella Molina from Simon Bolivar Residential Airport and by Omaira Botello from La Guzmania Presidential Residence on 10 March—recorded]

[Text] [Molina] Foreign Minister Reinaldo Figueredo met U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle at Simon Bolivar Airport today. The security at the airport was very heavy and effective. Reporters were unable to get close to Quayle, who, among other things, came to Venezuela to explain his government's stance on the military invasion of Panama on 20 December. Quayle was driven to the La Guzmania Presidential Residence in an armored vehicle shipped especially for him from the United States. Riding with Quayle were Foreign Minister Figueredo and U.S. Democratic Senator Edward Kennedy.

First Lady Blanca Rodriguez de Perez flew to the airport's military wing to personally welcome Marilyn Quayle, wife of the vice president. Later, she took Mrs. Quayle to the Caraballeda Club. U.S. Vice President Quayle will be in Venezuela for only three hours and then he will fly to Barbados. From the airport, he

immediately went to La Guzmania to meet President Carlos Andres Perez. He will hold a separate meeting with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez. Omaira Botello will report from there.

[Botello] At 1300 and amid tight security measures, U.S. Vice President Quayle and Senator Kennedy arrived at La Guzmaina. President Perez was accompanied by Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez. The leaders met for three and a half hours. The central topics of discussion were Nicaragua and the pressing need to reinforce democracy in that Central American country. The major points of concurrence include providing all possible cooperation, so the contras are demobilized in a peaceful manner before 25 April, when Mrs. Violeta Chamarro takes office.

Reporters from every local and international news media waited several hours at La Guzmania to talk to Mr. Quayle. He stressed his friendship with President Perez and his support for the actions of Perez. President Perez explained the purpose of Dan Quayle's visit.

[Perez] The meeting has allowed the three leaders to reflect on problems of common interest, the democratic process that is successfully taking place in Nicaragua, the democratization of Latin America, and so on. This has been a splendid, although very brief, opportunity to discuss several points of view that are very satisfactory for democracy in the Americas.

[Botello] Quayle talked to reporters for approximately 20 minutes. He commented on his government's plans for Nicaragua, stressing that the most important thing is to restore democracy in Central America.

[Quayle, speaking in English with superimposed translation into Spanish] President Bush supports Latin America. For him, the Western Hemisphere is his first priority. I have visited this hemisphere five times. President Bush has visited it twice. He is constantly on the phone; he calls Carlos Andres Perez all the time. He [words indistinct] with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, seeking his [words indistinct] in the hemisphere and the world in general. And so, I want to be very clear in telling my friends who are present that the development of democracy and economic opportunities in this hemisphere are very important to us.

[Botello] Before leaving for the airport, Quayle told the news media that the United States will give its direct support to Violeta Chamorro. In addition, it will provide the resources that may be needed to maintain democracy.

Gonzalez, Perez Hold Press Conference

PA1003192890 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1836 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Caracas, 10 Mar (DPA)—Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez said today that a peaceful transfer of power in Nicaragua can only be achieved by the demobilization of the anti-Sandinist rebels. He added that Spain will continue to provide aid to the Central American nation after Violeta Chamorro takes office.

"In my opinion, to be frank, it is necessary to dismantle the irregular force known as the contras," Gonzalez said today during a press conference held in Caracas jointly with Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, at the end of the official part of Gonzalez' 3-day visit to Venezuela.

Perez said that the contras are the main threat to Nicaraguan democracy, a position that, he said, he and Gonzalez expressed to U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle yesterday when the latter passed through Caracas.

"The United States now has to demonstrate its sincere and real interest in the Nicaraguan democratic process," and clearly state that it is in agreement with a dissolution of the contras, Perez added.

Gonzalez began a 3-day official visit to Venezuela on 8 March. This weekend, he will hold a number of high-level diplomatic meetings here, related primarily to the situation in Nicaragua.

On 8 March, Mrs. Chamorro, who will become president of Nicaragua on 25 April, passed through Caracas. On 9 March, the topic of Nicaragua was the axis of talks between Dan Quayle, Gonzalez, and Carlos Andres Perez.

Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega is expected to arrive this afternoon. Tomorrow, he will travel along with Gonzalez and Perez, as well as Costa Rican President Oscar Arias and Honduran President Rafael Callejas, to the inauguration of Chilean President-elect Patricio Aylwin.

During the press conference, Perez criticized that Televisora Marti, financed by the U.S. Government, will soon start broadcasting to Cuba from Miami.

Interference with the Cuban television constitutes "improper pressure" by Washington to "corner" Cuba, he said.

Concerning the insistence on the democratization of Fidel Castro's regime, Gonzalez expressed a preference for what he described as "respect for desirable, positive developments" on the island and pointed out that the Cubans alone should decide on these developments.

"In Latin America and particularly with regard to Cuba, it is advisable to be extremely careful with what one says," Gonzalez said.

"I think there is a good historic trend in Latin America. I wish with all my heart that Cuba could share this trend. Nevertheless, this problem must be settled by the Cubans, no one else," Gonzalez also said.

Yesterday Perez and Gonzalez signed the base document of a cooperation treaty whereby over the next three years Venezuela will receive approximately $3 billion through credits and direct aid, which will be used primarily to modernize Venezuela's economy.

Spain has already signed similar agreements with Mexico and Argentina, and is currently negotiating with Brazil and Chile.

Gonzalez attempted to clear up possible fears with regard to Western Europe's growing lack of interest toward Latin America in light of developments in East Europe.

"Our priorities are here," Gonzalez said, although he underscored that it is necessary to help the East European countries reform their economic structure.

"The sign of the times," Gonzalez said, is the formation of large supranational economic blocs such as the European Community, adding that "though evidently late," Latin America is showing the symptoms of an integration process.

Gonzalez reiterated that Spain will support Nicaragua after Mrs. Chamorro takes office on 25 April. He said that Spain has become Central America's leading creditor, and that it will lend its aid to the Managua government regardless of that government's orientation.

Base Document of Treaty With Spain Signed

PA1003182590 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1949 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] Caracas, 9 Mar (EFE)—Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez today signed the base document of a friendship treaty between the two countries, whereby Venezuela will receive approximately $3 billion from Spain in credits and investments.

The base document for a Spain-Venezuela general friendship and cooperation treaty, the third Spain has signed, following those with Argentina and Mexico, will be developed over the next three years through the joint execution of a financial cooperation program that will contribute toward modernizing Venezuela's economy.

This cooperation establishes soft credits of approximately $1.2 billion under conditions established by the Fund for Development Aid [FAD] and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), with amortization deadlines of up to seven years, and interest rates starting at seven percent.

These credits will set in motion investments to complete the approximately $3 billion that will be assigned to Venezuela's productive and service sectors, to the increased presence of Spanish businessmen in the country's development, to promote business associations between the two countries, and to foster the execution of projects that will increase Venezuela's export capabilities.

The base document also calls for both governments to consider plans designed to attract resources that will be assigned to the reduction of Venezuela's foreign debt (approximately $30 billion).

To execute the program, both governments must initiate the signing of special agreements designed to preclude double taxation and provide reciprocal guarantees for investors.

In the field of technical and scientific-technological cooperation, priority will be assigned to programs and projects that promote Venezuela's industrial development and technological modernization by linking the program to economic and financial cooperation.

Concerning consular relations, in states where one of the countries does not have a consular office, nationals from the country without such an office will be allowed to go to the other country's consulate to seek assistance.

This treaty's goal is to strengthen the ties between the two countries in response to the upcoming fifth centennial of the discovery and meeting of two worlds, and precedes those that Spain is studying with Chile (in progress) and Brazil (negotiations have not yet begun).

In the political sphere, the base document considers the establishment of a high-ranking consultation system that will ensure harmony in the positions adopted by both countries to defend common principles, and will allow each country to be aware of the other's actions in the international sphere.

Within the next two months, delegations from both countries will hold at least two rounds of negotiations, one in Spain and the other in Venezuela, where they will develop agreements established in the base document and, in June or July, Spain and Venezuela will sign and seal the general treaty.

In 1989, Spain granted Venezuela $2.5 million in emergency aid for food, and another $50 million in FAD credits.

Gonzalez Reaffirms Desire To Help in Salvador

PA1103004790 Paris AFP in Spanish 2226 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Caracas, 10 Mar (AFP)—Spain "is interested in helping in the dialogue of the peace process in El Salvador," Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez said today, pointing out that the Central American peace process is "very interdependent."

Gonzalez said during a news conference that "what actually happens in El Salvador has a lot to do with what happens in Nicaragua, Honduras, and Guatemala," and

compared events that directly influenced El Salvador and Nicaragua and vice-versa.

Gonzalez said that what is required is "invaluable help in attaining the parallel effect of democratization and civic coexistence in any peace that comes in El Salvador. I believe that it is not advisable to forget this factor of peace, which could have great significance and would also allow Guatemala and Honduras to reinforce their democratic institutions."

Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, who accompanied Gonzalez at the news conference, lamented the fact that Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani would not be accompanying them on tomorrow's trip to Santiago, Chile, to attend Patricio Aylwin's inauguration.

Perez added that Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, Honduran President Rafael Callejas, and Costa Rican President Oscar Arias will also be traveling in the Spanish presidential plane tomorrow.

Gonzalez Comments on Possible Pinochet Meeting

PA1003183990 Paris AFP in Spanish 1644 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] Caracas, 10 Mar (AFP)—Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez said in a news conference in Caracas today that "nothing would happen" on his part if he is obliged to greet outgoing Chilean President General Augusto Pinochet on 10 March.

Spanish and international news circles had speculated that Gonzalez and Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, both social democrats, would try to arrive somewhat late in Santiago to avoid an encounter with Pinochet.

Gonzalez responded to a Spanish journalist who asked a question in this regard: "Nothing would happen on my part."

"In no way would I display what I believe to be a lack of respect for anyone. Absolutely nothing would happen. I fully trust that the process of democratizaion that has begun in Chile will proceed without any kind of limitation, other than the limitations of democratic free play," Gonzalez added.

Gonzalez said that "in all transition processes, there is a show of generosity on the part of the democratic forces that sometimes, after a certain period in history has passed, is not matched by the forces that comprised the authoritarian regime."

He added: "I would prefer that there be no speculation regarding an encounter with Gen. Pinochet. I have not said a single word on the subject and I will not say one, because I believe it is better to be respectful toward people, even if I have absolutely nothing in common with them, than to try to wound their pride."

Perez, who accompanied Gonzalez in the news conference, said: "We are happy to be going to President Patricio Aylwin's inauguration. We hail the process and we applaud Dictator Pinochet's gesture in holding an electoral process and respecting the result of the elections."